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BUSY COURTS.

SUGGESTED JURY VOLUNTEERS.

SEQUEL TO MR. "A" CASE.

Hongkong Attorney-General's Opinion.

The controversy which is raging over a remark made by Lord Darling at the conclusion of the "Mysterious Mr. A" case should have a particular interest for Hongkong in view of the recent discussion on the jury system obtaining here.

When Lord Darling was discharging the Midland Bank case



Lord Darling.

jury he said that he was sorry they had been kept so long, but when a member of the jury asked if they could be excused from further service, the Judge refused, remarking, "although it has been a long case it hasn't been a dull one, you know."

Hongkong jurymen who have sat out some of the drawn-out murder trials which take place here with what at Home would be considered alarming frequency may often feel like making a similar request, for however interesting a case may be, a man who has business to attend to would much rather be in a position to get on with it.

The suggestion that women should be included in the list of Hongkong jurors has been made before in the "China Mail" and the present is an opportune time to stress again the obvious advantages of withdrawing the distinction between the sexes, as has been done at Home.

The objections to mixed juries, as given to a "China Mail" representative yesterday afternoon by the Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, are chiefly those of delicacy—the disinclination to talk freely of certain aspects of disagreeable cases. But if these have been considered insufficient at Home how much more so ought they to be in the case of Hongkong where the percentage of males eligible for service in comparison with the population is so much smaller. And a frequent complaint among members of the gentler sex is that "there is so little to do in a place like Hongkong."

A suggestion which is gaining favour at Home is that volunteers for jury service should be accepted, subject to satisfactory evidence as to fitness—the idle people, for instance, who hang about such places as the Central Criminal Court in London. Many of them, remarks a Home paper, would no doubt jump at the chance of spending a few days at the Law Courts, judging their neighbours, and there is no reason why unwilling men should be pressed when there are voluntary recruits.

Asked whether he thought that this system or one of a permanent jury would ever be introduced into Hongkong, Mr. Kemp remarked that the chances of bribery would be greatly increased with the introduction of a professional jury and there would be much

STREET FATALITY.

WOMAN KNOCKED DOWN BY MOTOR BUS.

A Chinese woman was knocked down and injured by an Aberdeen motor bus at the junction of Mount Davis Road and Pokfulam Road yesterday.

She died later in hospital. Another Chinese was sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries to his leg caused by being knocked down by a prison motor van at Des Voeux Road Central yesterday.

Motor-cycles are more popular in Britain than in America. Recent statistics show Britain's total as 500,000. In motor-cars Britain is far behind with a total of less than a million. The country has 6,000,000 "push-bikes."

more difficulty experienced in getting a volunteer jury here than there would be at Home.

"As a matter of fact," said Mr. Kemp, "a Hongkong magistrate sitting as a coroner has power to bring in anyone he likes from the street but the jury is always chosen in a similar manner to that adopted for the selection of jurors for the Criminal Sessions which is by drawing from the box of jurors' names. Jurors who have served on long cases are put in a box which is not touched until all the other names have been drawn."

AIR DISASTER.

THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF THE CROYDON AIR DISASTER.

ENGINE THEORY.

(Reuter's Special.)

London, January 9.

At the inquest into the death of the victim of the Croydon air disaster of December 24 last year, the Coroner stated that Captain Hinchcliff, the pilot, who was flying the machine some days before the fatal day, had complained of engine trouble. Captain Hinchcliff actually flew back to Croydon on the morning of the disaster. The jury must consider, said the Coroner, whether reasonable care had been taken to make the machine fit for the journey, and decide whether the deaths were due to misadventure or negligence.

Expert Opinions.
Captain Glasson, Civil Trans-

BANDIT ROMANCE.

CAPTIVE WEDS CHIEF'S DAUGHTER.

RANSOM AS DOWRY.

Arabian Nights Story From Macao.

Reading like a fable from "The Arabian Nights" is the story of an adventure of a Chinese who was kidnapped for ransom and eventually returned jubilant with the daughter of the bandit chief as his bride.

Complete details are not available, but the story is partly authenticated by a Hongkong tobacco merchant who has just come back from Macao where he waited for his nephew's liberation from the robber stronghold.

In October, shortly before the Chung Young festival (9th day of the 9th moon) when Chinese in Hongkong make a pilgrimage to the Peak, the hero was returning from a Macao tobacco shop, associated with the Hongkong establishment, to his native village in the Heungshan district, which is close to Macao and is reached by

the maze of waterways comprising the southern part of the Canton River delta.

Attacked by robbers on the way, he was taken captive at a spot not far from the Macao-Chingshan boundary. Without anyone knowing that he was a prisoner, he was escorted to the town of Shekki, capital of the Heungshan district, and then taken to a bandit den further inland.

Before the father, principal of the Macao shop, had been notified that his son had failed to reach home, he received a letter from the captive instructing him to open negotiations for ransom.

As the method for discussing terms is very complicated and considerable amount of correspondence must pass to and fro, a month or two elapsed without any definite news as to the son's fate. Gradually the tone of the letters became more threatening. The amount first stipulated, \$8,000, was lowered to \$1,200.

Meanwhile, the hero had not wasted his time. In the outlaws' camp was a charming girl, still in her teens, whom he soon got to know as the daughter of the robber chieftain.

It was the wont of this pretty damsel to introduce herself to all prisoners awaiting release through ransom. Under orders from her stern parent she would ferret out of the unfortunate captives, all the necessary information as to their social position and wealth.

Apparently, in this instance she could not resist the charm of the captive and when she learnt that he was a bachelor and the heir to a thriving business in Macao, as the days passed, friendship ripened into love.

Eventually she made a clean breast to her bandit father of her affection. She pointed out that sooner or later, she would have to be disposed of in marriage. No matter who her husband would be, her father would have to spend over \$1,200 in dowry and in wedding expenses, as befitting a man of his position. So why not forego the ransom and get her married without expense?

It is not related how the irate parent took the proposal, but suddenly the tone of the letters to the Macao shop began to change. A week or so ago, an invitation was received by the hero's father to his son's wedding at a village near the robber stronghold. Not daring to venture there he preferred to wait. True enough, his son returned home this week, little the worse for his experience and with the chieftain's daughter as his wife.

Making the best of the bargain, the family took the girl in as the lawful *kit fat* and are now preparing for another wedding at their own home. The uncle in Hongkong has just been to Macao to approve of his nephew's bride by accepting the customary cup of tea from her.

ciatively the notes which now appear weekly in these columns.

The business before the meeting was to elect officers and consider the arrangements to be made for the observance of St. David's Day.

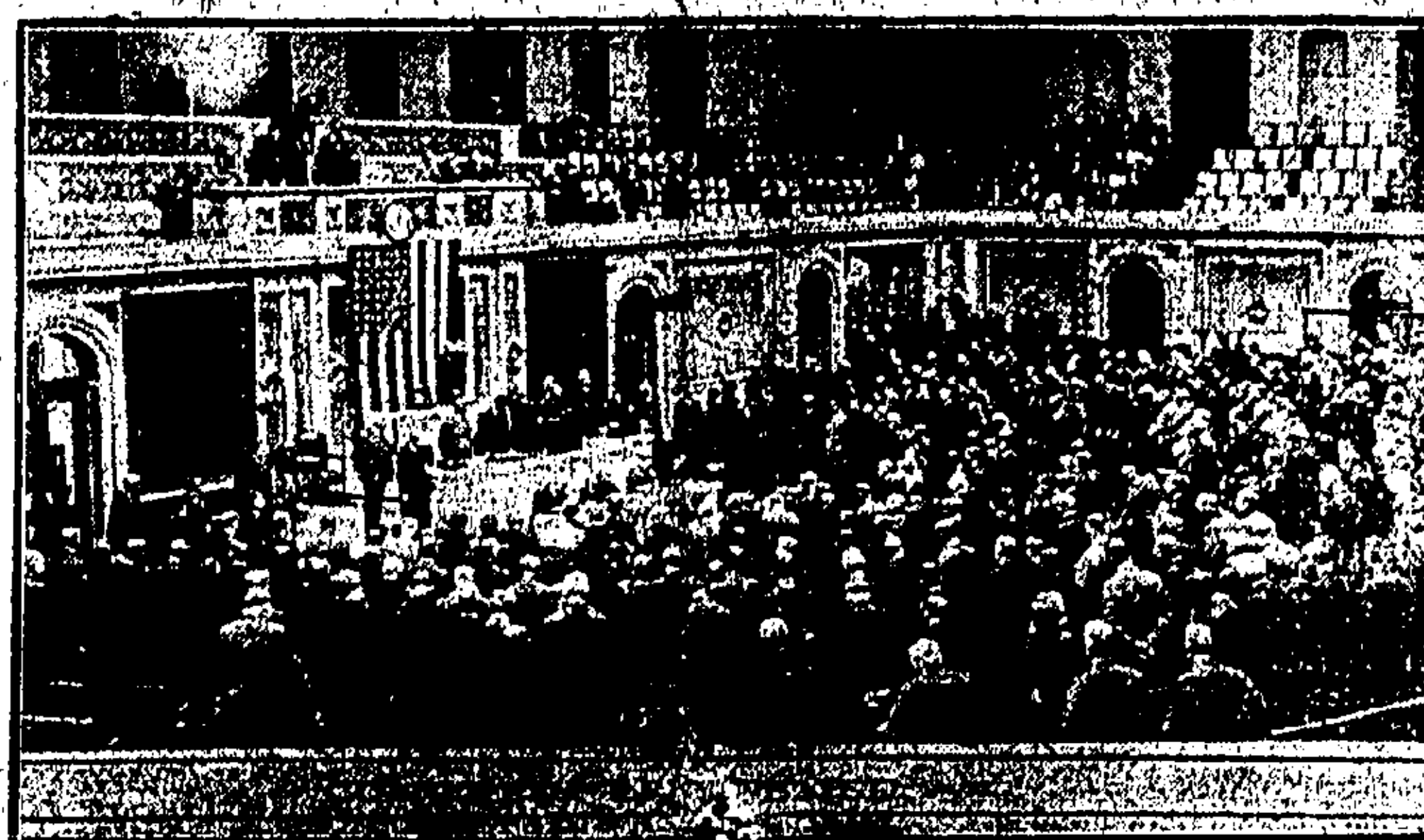
Mr. J. Owen-Hughes was re-elected President; Mr. D. J. Lewis, Vice-President; Mr. D. Davies, secretary; Mr. F. P. Williams, Hon. Treasurer.

The following were elected to the committee—Capt. Williams, Major Milner-Jones, Dr. W. L. Thomas, Mr. E. F. Price, Mrs. Wynne-Jones and Mrs. A. L. Jones.

The arrangements for a dinner on the Saturday before St. David's Day, which this year is on a Sunday, were left in the hands of the committee, which will meet shortly. It was agreed that notices should be sent to the newspapers.

The Society has a balance in hand of \$217.55.

AMERICA'S PARLIAMENT OPENS FOR SHORT SESSION.



The second session of the 68th Congress has been opened in Washington. This photograph shows the House of Representatives as the Chaplain offered the opening prayer. The Speaker, Mr. Frederick Gillett, soon to become Senator from Massachusetts, is seen standing in the rear.

BOY SCOUTS.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Boy Scouts' Association was held at St. John's Cathedral Hall last evening, Mr. E. H. B. Hancock presiding.

The report for the year ended September 30 showed a balance in hand of \$14,386.58. Commenting on the accounts, Mr. C. Champlin said "that he took charge of the 'Silver Wolf,' the official magazine of the Association, when he relieved Rev. Waldegrave as commissioner. The Association still contributed \$75 per month toward the upkeep of the magazine, and with this help and other contributions the magazine had not only paid for its upkeep but there was a balance of \$1,523. The subscription of \$10 each from about 100 members, who enlisted during the year, were divided equally between the Association and the 'Silver Wolf.' The cost of upkeeping Pine Woods would not appear again as these had been taken over by the Military authorities, but the Association would still be allowed to use them. The chairman mentioned that the Commissioner had done hard work in publishing the 'Silver Wolf' which he had not told those present.

The following were re-elected as officers for the present year on the motion of Mr. C. Champlin, seconded by Mr. T. A. Robertson:—The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak (president), Mr. R. H. B. Hancock (vice-president), Mr. G. W. Bellars (treasurer), and Mr. A. White (secretary).

The Commissioner commented on the satisfactory way in which Mr. Bellars had carried out his duties as acting treasurer during the absence of Mr. C. H. Blason. Mr. Champlin, who is leaving for the Colony shortly, welcomed Mr. Robertson as acting Commissioner pending the return of the Rev. G. W. Waldegrave, and expressed the hope to resume activities on his return.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

port Traffic Officer, Croydon, said that the pilot took an extremely long run when taking off. He expressed the opinion that he had difficulty in getting off the ground. The strength and direction of the wind might have been one of the chief causes of the accident.

Captain Barnard, Imperial Airways pilot, who took the second aeroplane to Paris on December 24 after the accident, said that he was confident there was nothing wrong with the engine of the wrecked machine. He expressed the opinion that the pilot intended to land, when the machine stalled and nose-dived.

The inquest was adjourned. [A London cablegram of December 24 stated:—Eight persons—five men and three women—were killed when the air express from London to Paris crashed at the Croydon aerodrome this morning, bursting into flames. The victims were the pilot and eight of the passengers. The aeroplane had just started for Paris at noon, when it crashed, about half a mile from the starting point, nose downwards, the front of the engine burying itself into the ground. The petrol tank then burst and the petrol caught fire. The flames quickly spread to the body and wings. A crowd rushed to the spot to help but the heat was so intense that they were unable to approach the plane, which was reduced to ashes within ten minutes. The machine was a De Havilland of 450 horse-power and belonged to the Imperial Airways, Limited, a combination of British firms formed early in the year to work air transport services with the Continent. When the fire occurred all the passengers were probably unconscious, if not dead. The tail of the plane was tilted up so high that they were all thrown in a heap so forcibly that the bodies bore marks of injuries otherwise not to be accounted for.]

On January 12, a military court will sit to inquire into the loss of some tools and stores from the R.E. Workshops on New Year's Eve.

ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS.

[BY AP RHYS.]

The most interesting part of the discussion which followed the business part of the annual meeting of the St. David's Society of Hongkong, yesterday, was that concerned with the prospects of members being given opportunities for mixing with each other apart from the annual celebration of St. David's Day, such as by the arrangement of picnics in the summer and social gatherings in such a place as the Cathedral Hall in the winter. The idea met with general approval and the President said that it was one which could very well be brought up for consideration by the Committee.

Another matter which was referred to was the desirability of members who heard of the arrival in the Colony of Welsh people informing the Society or the persons themselves of the existence of the Society in order that they might be brought into touch with Welsh people at the earliest possible moment. The general opinion appeared to be that the Society might with advantage bring itself more frequently to the notice of the public.

Other matters, apart from the actual business before the meeting, were the welcome to the society, and incidentally to the Colony, of Mrs. A. L. Jones, wife of Chief Officer Jones of the "Huichow" (Mrs. Jones has recently arrived in the Colony from Fwellhell and was made a member of the Committee) and the recording of a vote of thanks to Mr. B. T. Lewis for his interest in the Society and the trouble taken a year or so ago in preparing Welsh notes for the "China Mail" (Mr. and Mrs. Lewis left the Colony to-day by the s.s. "Macedonia" and are not returning). The President was also good enough to mention appreci-

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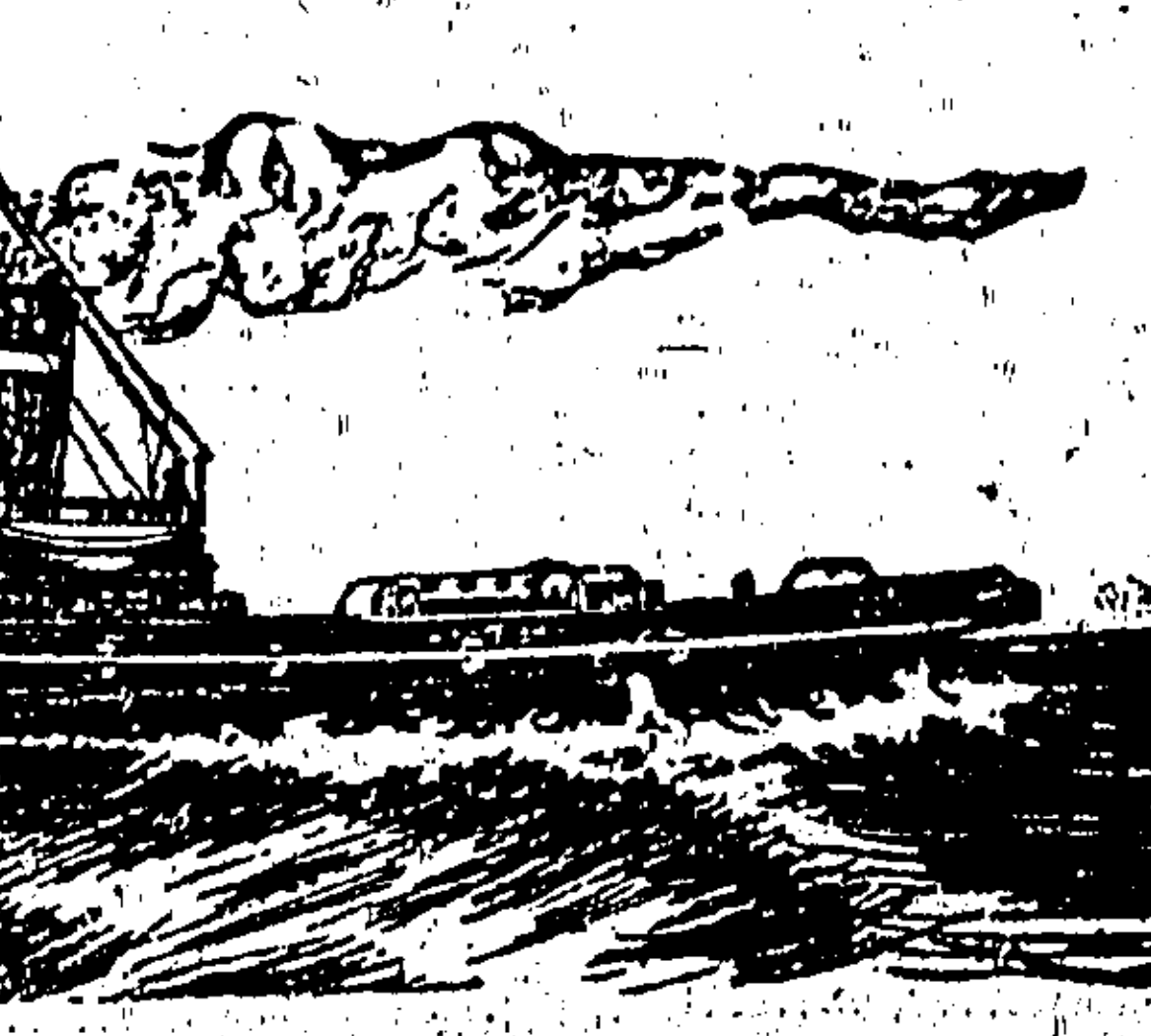
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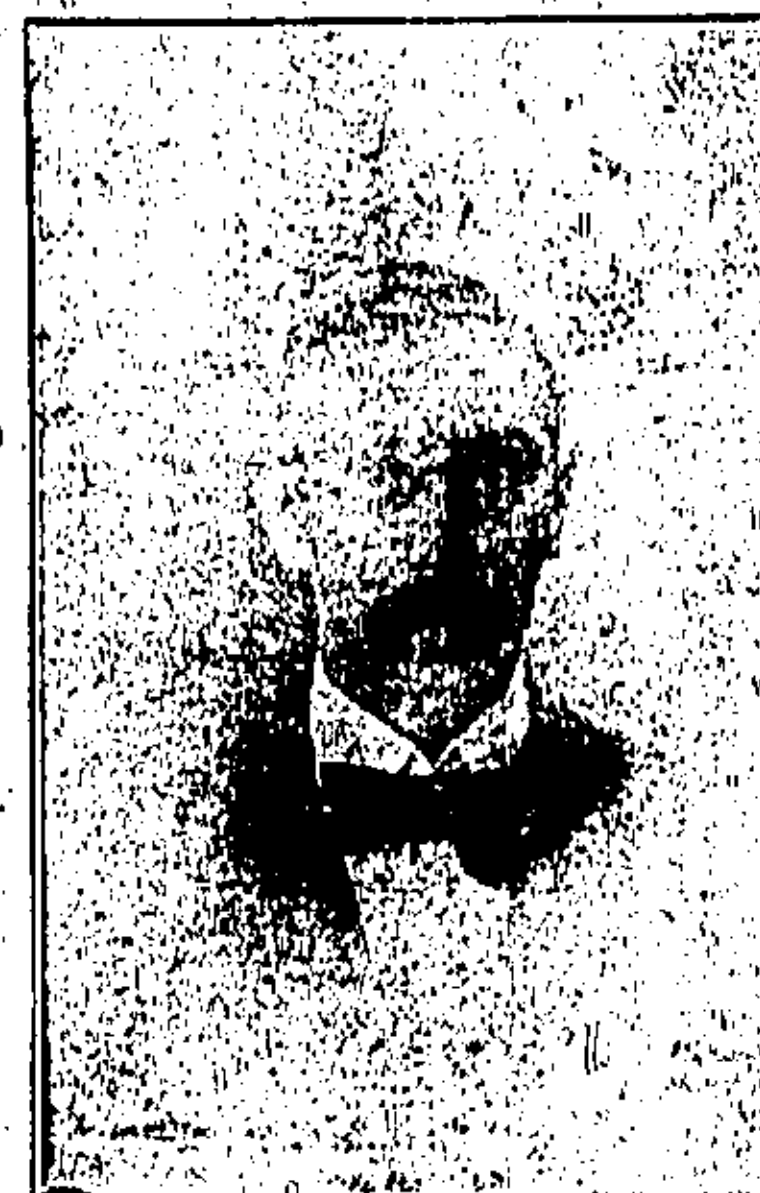
POLICE CLUB MAKES MERRY AT HAPPY VALLEY ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Photo by Mee Fong.

The Police Recreation Club celebrated their annual sports and Christmas Tree on their grounds on New Year's Day. A varied programme of events for the young folk as well as the elders was carried out. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. H. W. Kent, assisted by Mr. Marks and Sergeants Wynne and Nicoll. The club house and grounds were tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, in among which was a large Xmas Tree. The football match, Married v. Single, proved a novel and exciting game which ended with no score being registered. Another interesting item was the "Jack High" bowls tournament. The clown (Mr. Ward) was, in the opinion of the children, perhaps next in importance to the Xmas Tree, as he appeared to be exclusively reserved by them. After the dismantling of the presents, the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Wodehouse.

HARBOUR SCHEME MASTER MIND.

Mr. John Duncan, M.Inst. C.E., Chartered Civil Engineer and Port Engineer of Hongkong, author of the report on the commercial development of the Colony's harbour. Mr. Duncan is a man of whom Hongkong can rightly feel proud, for his report is an historic document.

HONGKONG MAN HONOURED.

Presenting Sir Henry Pollock, K.C., with the Degree of Doctor of Laws at the sixteenth Congregation of the University of Hongkong which took place on Monday afternoon, the Vice-Chancellor (Mr. Hornell) mentioned that the recipient was educated at Charterhouse, but left there at the early age of 18, first to go into a bank in Old Drury. Having received £50 as a remuneration for his year's service, he withdrew to the shades of the Temple and studied law. He was called to the Bar in November, 1887, and came out to Hongkong in April, 1888, and was immediately admitted as a practitioner. Since then Sir Henry has played many leading parts as Puisne Judge, Police Magistrate, Attorney-General—both here and in Fiji—and also as Chairman of the Peace Celebration and War Memorial Finance Committee. Sir Henry has been an ardent supporter of Constitutional Reform on the lines of the Petition which went to the House of Commons. He has been a member of the University Court from the start of the University.

HONGKONG NEWSPAPER MANAGER'S PRETTY PEAK WEDDING.

(Photo by Ming Yuen.)

The journalistic and medical professions were well represented at the wedding which took place at the Peak Church on Monday afternoon of Miss Gladys Livingston Murdoch, daughter of the Rev. A. G. Murdoch, M.A., B.D., and Mrs. Murdoch, of Glass, Huntly, Scotland and Mr. Frederick Percy Franklin, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Franklin, of Bournemouth, Hampshire, England. Both are well-known in the Colony, Mr. Franklin being manager of the "Hongkong Telegraph," and his bride on the Nursing Staff of the Government Civil Hospital. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. H. Copley Moyle. Mr. A. Morley attended the bridegroom as best man.

FIRST CHRISTMAS FORETOLD by an ANGEL



ANGELS OF THE BELLS

Who Was Gabriel, "the Angel of the Annunciation"—One of the Seven Whose Names Are Recorded As Individuals—No Scriptural Authority for Female Angels.

[By RENE BACHE.]

The coming of the first Christmas was foretold by an angel. We may read of that in the Gospel of St. Mark which says:

The angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee named Nazareth.

To a Virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, and the Virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her and said: "Hail, thou that art highly favoured. Blessed art thou among women. Behold, thou shalt conceive and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus."

Hence it is that Gabriel is commonly called the Angel of the Annunciation. But is anything else known about him?

The Bible tells us that he is the guardian of the celestial treasury. He is an archangel, and one of the seven whose names are given in the Scriptures.

The Bible refers to angels two hundred and forty-eight times, but names only the seven archangels—



THE ANNUNCIATION—(FROM PAINTING BY DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI)

Gabriel, Michael, Raphael, Uriel, Jophiel, Chamuel and Zadkiel.

Michael is the captain-general and leader of the celestial armies. "It was he who conquered Satan and drove him, together with his rebellious legions, out of Heaven. He is understood to have been chief of the band of angels who, at command of the Almighty, created the Universe. In paintings he is represented with a pair of scales, which he will use at Judgment Day to weigh the souls of the dead."

The Archangels. Raphael is chief of the guardian angels, who have special charge of the welfare of mankind. Uriel is the regent of the sun. Jophiel is guardian of the Tree of Knowledge, and it was he who drove Adam and Eve out of Eden. Chamuel is the angel who wrestled with Jacob, and it was Zadkiel who stayed the hand of Abraham when he was about to sacrifice his son Isaac.

There is no mention of female angels in the Bible. The literature that contains the Scriptures is of Oriental origin, and in Eastern countries women

are regarded as inferior creatures. That may be the reason why.

In a word, female angels have no authenticity; and, speaking in that connection, mention may appropriately be made of a curious happening incidental to the building of New York's great cathedral of Saint John the Divine. Along its front are a number of angels in stone which, as originally sculptured, were of the gentler sex. But objection was made by high ecclesiastical authorities and they were converted to the masculine persuasion.

Nobody seems ever to have thought of female angels until the great painter Fra Angelico, who devoted his life to adorning medieval churches with Scriptural scenes, introduced them into his pictures; and for doing it he was severely criticised by ecclesiastics of his

day, who declared that the idea was a most improper innovation.

The notion was taken up, however, by later painters, and modern angels in art are nearly all women—exception being necessarily made of archangels, whose sex is unquestionably male. Though lacking proper authenticity, the female angels have come to stay—exquisite idealizations of feminine beauty.

Early Names of Angels.

Nearly all pictured angels have blue eyes and golden hair. Artists, who are supposed to be expert judges of beauty, usually select the blonde type when they wish to represent the highest feminine ideal. Fra Angelico started the fashion; his angels were all blondes.

We hardly realize how much fashion has to do with setting the standards of

feminine beauty. That which was accepted by the ancient Greeks is made familiar to us by their statues and busts of Venus, Minerva and other goddesses. The chin was round and full, the lips rather sensual, the brow narrow and with no depression where the bridge of the nose merged into the forehead. In the last respect certainly, faces are not made that way, and never were, but it represented an ideal in old Greek art.

The early Christian conception of beauty discarded the Greek ideal, which the Romans had accepted, and sought to replace it with an Oriental type. It is a type represented in most pictures of the Virgin—the face an elongated perfect oval, the eyebrows high-arched, the mouth small and demure.

With the progress of the centuries

fashion has altered the standard of beauty again and again. Painters who gained celebrity had much to do with changing it. Raphael introduced a new type of angel, rounded sweetness. The early Flemish colourists set the style for heart-shaped faces, with wide cheekbones and faint eyebrows.

Whatever the fashion in this regard, the women of the day, quite naturally, would try their best to live up to it by suitable dressing of their hair, the wearing of ruffs, or other expedients. And most curious is it to observe, in examining the painted portraits of any period, that the individuals represented look much alike. A standard having been set, the painters of the time felt obliged to make all their female patrons correspond to it as nearly as they could. From the women's point of view that was wholly desirable; for, as any

fashionable photographer of to-day will testify, no woman cares much whether her picture is a good likeness or not, so long as it is pretty.

These remarks are appropriate here only because fashions in feminine pulchritude have been reflected in pictures of angels. The latter are much more often brunettes nowadays, but perhaps for the reason that the blonde type is becoming scarce.

Characteristic of Angels.

Angels are always tall. Their garments (as represented in art) are very full and flowing. Usually their clothing is white, but it may be blue, red or even green. They are invariably bare-footed, or even out of shoes in rare instances. Michael, being a soldier, is sometimes represented as an armoured warrior and carries a sword.

It was stated above that only seven angels are known individually by name. An eighth, however, should be added. He is called Satan, and it will be remembered that he organized a dangerous revolt in the eastern many legions under his banner many legions of angels. Of the details of the war that followed we know nothing, but only that Satan was finally defeated by the heavenly armies under the leadership of Michael, and driven out of Paradise, to devote his subsequent existence to making mischief for the world. In this connection, attention may be called to the fact that the Heaven of ancient and primitive conception was a walled and fortified city.

In early Christian art Satan is usually represented as wearing a halo. He appears thus adorned in many of the most famous paintings of the later middle ages. This may seem strange to us, accustomed as we are to regard the aureole as a symbol of glory or holiness. But originally it had no such significance; it was meant to express the idea of power.

The Halo, an Ancient Symbol. The halo as a symbol is much more ancient than Christianity. Roman emperors and even consuls were represented with halos. In the Christian art of the middle ages the members of the Trinity were usually depicted with triangular halos. Portraits of living high ecclesiastics were distinguished by square halos. Halos nowadays are golden, or at least rings of brightness, but in former times they were occasionally red or green.

Inasmuch as nobody has ever seen an angel, at least since Scriptural times, pictures of them are necessarily based upon imagination. They are nearly always represented with wings. The latter do not correspond exactly in type to those of any species of bird, but it may be said that they most nearly resemble those of the albatross. For artistic purposes, they do very well, but mechanically they could not possibly be operated for flying.

For the reason above mentioned, there is no irreverence in discussing this point. Angels of course, are spirits, and mechanical laws cannot be held to apply to their mode of locomotion. But, merely in criticism of the artists' conception, it may be said that a buzzard—the original model after which Langley's first airplane was designed—weighs about five pounds and has a wingspread of five and three tenths square feet. On that basis, a fairly robust male angel weighing 150 pounds would require about 180 square feet of wing surface, and each wing should be not far from eighteen feet long.

NUTS FOR CHRISTMAS



Many Parts of the World Called Upon for These Toothsome Additions To the Xmas Table.

[By DUNCAN CAMERON.]

What sort of Christmas would we have if we were deprived of the toothsome nuts that play such important part in the burden of the well-filled stocking and groaning dinner table? The human mind rebels at the suggestion, and refuses to give the picture the consideration of a moment. Christmas nuts are an established institution, as much a part of the holiday season as turkey, cranberries, mince-pie and plum-pudding.

The nuts of the Christmas season come from many portions of the world. The English walnut has grown in Persia for thousands of years. Filberts are native to many parts of Europe and the British Isles. Almonds established themselves in the American market when the chief supply was produced in the countries surrounding the Mediterranean. Pecans are the product of the Gulf States and Mississippi Valley. Nigger-toes are brought from Brazil, the country from which they derive their common name of Brazil Nuts. The favourite black walnuts and

hickory-nuts are natives of North America.

English Walnuts Are Persian. Authorities differ as to the naming of the English walnut. Some of them insist that the name should be "Persian." In support of this contention they bring forward the circumstance that the species thrived in Persia for centuries before its introduction into the British Isles. Botanical experts give the product the Persian label and declare that the other designation is altogether wrong. In the meantime the world at large calls it the English walnut and buys it by thousands of tons.

This nut was highly regarded in the days of antiquity. Evidence of long lineage is found in the scientific name by which it is known to horticulturists. In the lore of the botanist the product is Japans regia, "the Royal nut of Jove." What greater tribute of nomenclature could be wished?

Widespread Production. Persia is no longer the source of supply for this favourite. The trees

have become widely scattered and have found firm foothold in many parts of the world. Until recent years the principal supplies for the American market were imported from Italy and the South of France. Even now there is liberal call on those regions, but increasing respect is commanded by the product of California. Great orchards now thrive in the irrigated districts of that state.

The Persian walnut is easily grown at home and the planting of a tree is worth the effort. The species will thrive in climates that are not too severe and will produce good dividends in harvest and satisfaction. The wood of the tree is the Circassian walnut of the furniture trade.

The Black Walnut. The black walnut is a full bodied American, found originally in an area covering almost the whole of the eastern portion of the United States. In its native growth it was found to best advantage in the protected Appalachian coves and the fertile bottom of the Ohio and central Mississippi River

basins. This territory extended from western Vermont, Minnesota and South Dakota, on the north, to central Texas and southern Georgia on the south. In the heart of this area the tree is of commercial importance because of comparative abundance and the value of its timber for furniture and interior decorations. During the European War the material was in strong demand for making gun-stocks and airplane propellers.

Since the War there has been a widespread movement for ornamental plantings of this species, and black walnuts are now found to an increasing extent in residential areas and along the roadsides. The use of the tree for memorial purposes, in honour of the men who gave their lives during the great conflict, has been stimulated by a sense of its high economic value and a recognition of the important service rendered by the native walnut in the prosecution of the war. Almost any household in the United States can raise its own walnuts if there is available ground. The trees will grow from nut plantings with little care or trouble. The species is highly adaptable and is

now growing in every state in the Union.

The Filbert. The filbert is beginning to find a place in the sun as an item of American horticulture. For generations this country has obtained its Christmas nuts from this species from the orchards of various parts of Europe. The name itself is German. Early attempts to establish the bush in the United States resulted in disappointment, because of a serious blight by which the experimental trees were attacked. To-day, however, science has made it possible for the attacks to be nullified, and the filbert is coming into commercial importance as a product of the Pacific Northwest.

American Grows Almonds. The story of our almonds is a recital of American enterprise. Until a few years ago these nuts came to us from the shores of the Mediterranean. An American almond crop was unknown. To-day the situation is altogether changed. California has established almond groves on extensive scale and with distinguished success. An almond orchard in full bloom is one of the finest sights in the world.

The almond is a very relative of the peach and apricot. In literal terms it may be described as a peach stone which grows without surrounding flesh, and with flavour that is sweet instead of

bitter. In the bitter almond the relationship is strongly emphasized. China produces an apricot with sweet kernel in which there is close resemblance to the almond of our Christmas feast.

Further evidence of kinship is found in the use of peach trees for storing an almond orchard. For propagating purposes the twigs of the nut tree are grafted to those of the fruit producer, resulting in a growth which confines its activities to the production of nuts. The budding process acts swiftly and produces almonds during the second summer.

The Pecan. The pecan is a nut of rising supremacy. It is my firm belief that a general election would accord this species undisputed position as the greatest American nut. This popularity is a matter of recent growth. Two generations ago the pecan was little known. Those that reached the market were small and uninviting. The bitterness of the inner shell was a serious handicap and created considerable prejudice.

The pecan of to-day is a product of careful grafting and cultivation. Under the influence of this care the nut now finds its way to market as a creation of delightful flavour, round, plump and thin-shelled. With a bit of experience any child may crack a pecan in a way that permits the kernel to be dislodged in two parts. This eliminates

the puckering taste of the inner shell and produces a kernel of attractive appearance. The nut is really a hickory-nut, growing throughout the Mississippi valley as far north as Iowa and into Indiana, Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. Great orchards have been planted in Georgia, Florida and Alabama.

"Nigger-toes." The Brazil nut is in a class by itself. All other species here considered are produced in individual nuts. The triangular nigger-toe grows in a ball-shaped shell, with many nuts carefully packed within the outer walls. The peeling process is the factor which produces the curious three-cornered shape of the nut as we find it in the Christmas stocking. For harvesting shipment the outer shells are removed and the single nuts separated.

The growth of Brazil nuts is a junction of the South American jungle. In the wild places of the forest the harvest is gathered by natives and prepared for river shipment to the seaports of Brazil. From these ports the nuts are forwarded to America in great quantities, for the express purpose of supplying the Christmas stocking.

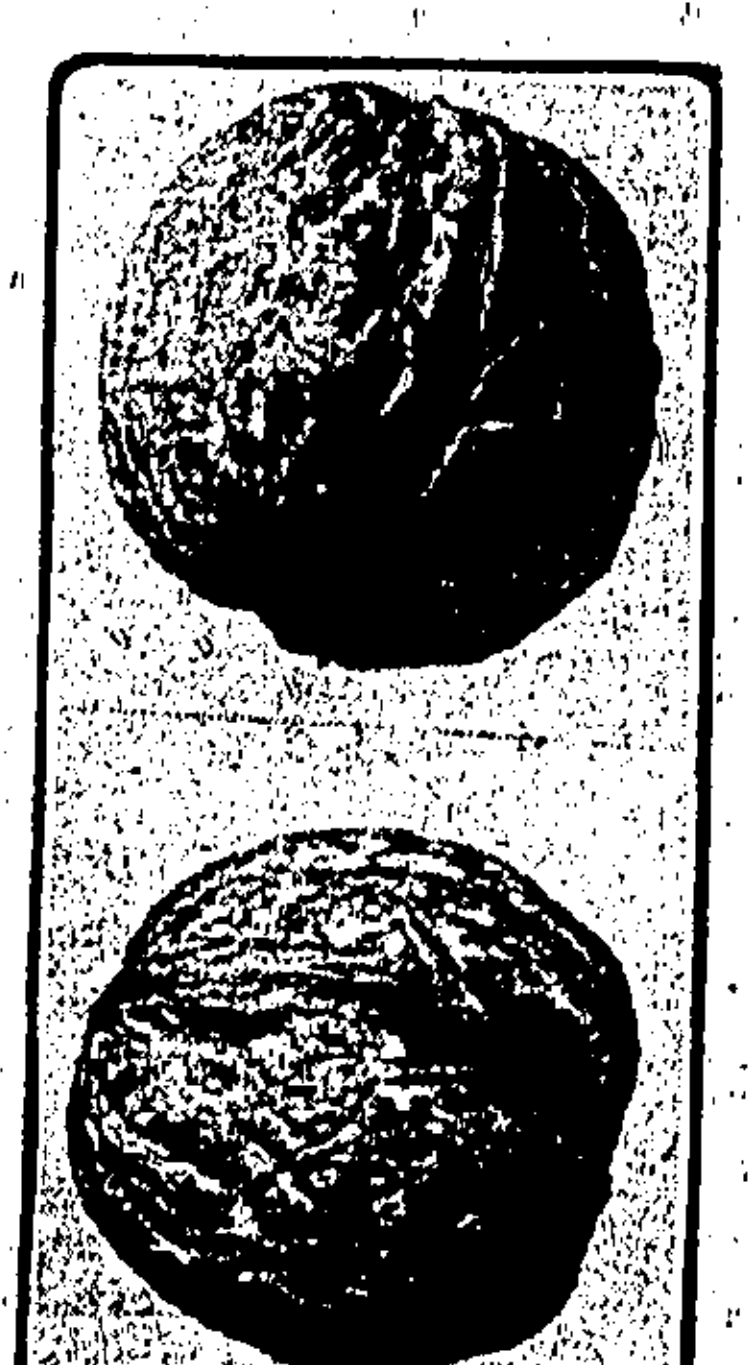
The Brazil nut has the treacherous characteristic of turning to powder within the shell, and for this reason the buyer should be wary of nigger-toes when offered at "bargain" prices. The merchandise may furnish a Christmas disappointment.



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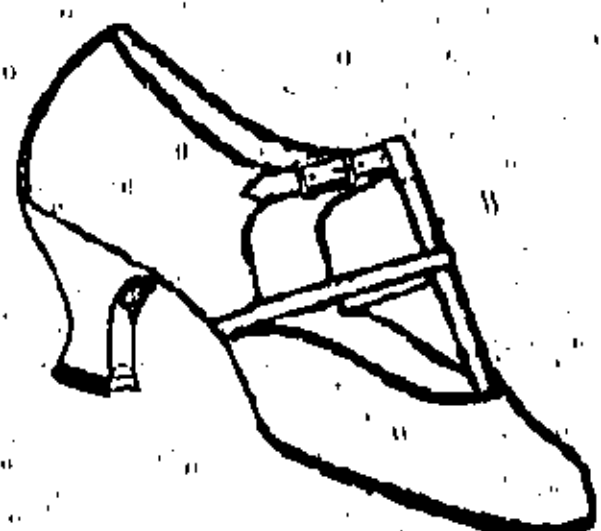
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BIRTHS.

BROOMFIELD.—On January 2,
1925, at Shanghai, to Mr.
and Mrs. Broomfield, Chinese
Maritime Customs, a son.
MCGEOWN.—On January 5,
1925, at Shanghai, to Mr.
and Mrs. J. J. McGeown, a
daughter.

MARRIAGE.

DEWING—McCANN.—On
Saturday, January 3, 1925,
at Shanghai, Arthur George
Philip, only son of Charles
Dewing, of Shanghai, and
Florence Beryl, only daughter
of Florence A. McCann,
of Shanghai.

DEATH.

LOVER.—On December 6, 1924,
at London, Margaret Sheila
Banning-Lover, only daughter
of Mrs. E. G. B. Lover, of
20 Granville Road, East-
bourne, in her 8th year.

Hongkong, Saturday, January 10, 1925.

WHEN WE ALL FLY.

Mr. John W. Weeks, the American War Secretary, admits this week that the armaments race has developed into an air armaments race. On this score he regards the record sum of \$16,000,000 set aside for the air service in the Army Bill as insufficient to maintain an adequate air force. Opposing the unification of the Army and Navy air services, he recommends the building-up of commercial aviation, even to the point of a subsidy, as the best means of developing an adequate reserve force. Mr. Weeks is perfectly correct. He would be pardoned to the signs of the times who argued in any other strain. Public men and armchair strategists may prate till they are hoarse of the naval ratio of this country and that, but they cannot possibly leave but of account that arm of the services relating to the air. Every fresh development in aviation but hastens the day when less will be heard of naval ratios and more of air ratios. Mr. Weeks certainly

proves himself alive to the needs of the moment and the requirements of to-morrow when he recommends the building up of commercial aviation, even to the point of a subsidy, as the best means of developing an adequate air reserve force. The American War Secretary has evidently been keeping himself in close touch with the advance of commercial aviation in Great Britain. Within a week or two, there will be tested a new passenger aircraft for cross-Channel work and other long routes, which represents a distinct advance on previous aircraft. With increased comfort the new machine will carry fourteen passengers at a cruising speed of a hundred miles an hour for an expenditure of just over 46 horse-power per passenger. The landing speed has been brought down to 52 miles an hour, and by the incorporation of the new De Havilland automatic variable wing camber device, the run taken to get off has been shortened, making it more negotiable in small spaces. It will, it is claimed, increase the lead of British commercial aircraft for commercial running, and in comparison with some of the French commercial aircraft on exhibition at the Paris Aero Show, will carry its passengers at nearly half the horse power per passenger. An account of this development in British commercial aviation is naturally known to the American War Secretary, and therefore it does not come as any surprise to hear of his anxiety to build up commercial aviation in the United States even to the point of a subsidy. Whilst the committee of the House of Representatives is investigating the aircraft industry and considering Mr. Weeks's ideas on commercial aviation, the British captains of aviation, naval and commercial, may be trusted to forge still further ahead.

Books For The Jail.

Shortly before Christmas, along with the Cathedral chaplains, the "China Mail" drew attention to the hard lot of Europeans in Victoria Prison during the festive season, owing to the regulations failing to provide any fare beyond the drab routine diet. Lack of time made it impossible to amend the regulations before Christmas, but it is hoped that the necessary change can be made before the next festive season. However, although the Cathedral chaplains were unable to secure any special fare for the prisoners on Christmas day they were able to give a festive touch by replenishing the jail library, which was in a very sorry state indeed. The notice was too short for the Cathedral chaplains to make any organized appeal, and the jail library, we are told, is still sadly in need of books. Spare books of all kinds will be very much appreciated, but technical books would be specially welcome, such as works on navigation, etc., which would enable seafaring inmates to employ their time pleasantly and profitably.

There must be many people in Hongkong who could spare a volume or two from their book shelves, and as we said last week, if the reader is inclined to wonder why it is the shelves of the jail library have got depleted and why the Government has not replenished them, he should let no such musings check a generous impulse, for true charity never considers the whys and wherefores when the need is great—it gives with an open hand.

The Liberal Party.

The most piquantly interesting problem in the Home political world just at present is that concerned with the future of the Liberal Party, both by reason of the recent debacle at the polls and the internal dissensions with which the Party is assailed. There does not appear to have been any healing of the feud which was exposed by Captain Wedgwood Benn's declaration in the "Daily News" that he would not acknowledge Mr. Lloyd George as his leader in the House of Commons, although many of the Asquithian element have hastened to disassociate themselves from the extreme opinions held by the member for Leith. They were no doubt actuated in this by the sure and certain knowledge that if the Party in its present weakened state splits on a personal question of this nature it will at least be crippled in its efforts and subjected to derision, even if its existence as a vital force in the political world is not more drastically threatened. To disinterested onlookers a continuation of the present feud has the appearance of something paltry and mean, and unless a united front is presented very shortly there will be an even more considerable alienation of opinion which will establish the Labour party without a rival in the position of the only recognized Progressive party of Great Britain. Now that there has been a joint declaration of policy at the recent Liberal Convention there would appear to be no reason why all the talent and driving force at the command of the Party may not be utilised to the fullest practicable extent. Even so, it is something to be grateful for that Liberal dissensions, Labour prospects, and Conservative hopes are outside the pale of practical talk in Hongkong. "A curse on all your Parties," is the sentiment of all who would desire the Empire as a whole to forge ahead.

ST. GEORGE'S DANCE.

SHAMEEN DECIDE TO FALL
IN LINE.
NEW SOCIETY.

At a meeting held in the Canton Club on Monday last, it was decided to hold a "St. George's Dance" this year on January 22, and as owing to the unsuitable weather which usually prevails on St. George's Day (April 23), it is out of the question to hold one so late in the season.

It was also decided to form a St. George's Society in Canton. A committee has been elected to discuss the question, says the "Canton Gazette," and there are great hopes of the Society becoming an accomplished fact.

"THE MERRY-GO-ROUND."
"STEP UP, STEP UP" FOR
LAST TIME.

All too soon the season of "The Merry-Go-Round" comes to a conclusion at the Coronet Theatre this evening, when doubtless the packed houses of the week will be more than sustained.

That the public have appreciated the enterprise of the management of the Coronet in bringing this rare film here is evident from the numerous expressions of approval—and even of applause at some of the more thrilling parts of the story.

Least there be some who have not yet found time to see "The Merry-Go-Round" it may be said by way of a final word that it is directed by Rupert Julian, a world traveler, well versed in European political conditions before and after the war, and therefore well qualified to handle this great story of love and war in old Vienna, the seat of the once mighty, who to-day are starving in the shell of their former glory. In previous issues this week mention has been made of the part played by Mary Philbin and Norman Kerry, not omitting George Seigmann; but there are others in the cast with more than an ordinary reputation, and all of these help in no small measure to make "The Merry-Go-Round" the most of the romance surrounding the screening of "The Merry-Go-Round."

ARMS RAIDS.

THE BIG SEIZURE BY
WATER POLICE.

TWO* ARRESTS.

Two boys on board the craft raided yesterday by Detective Sergeant Andrew of the Water Police have been arrested.

In addition to the 15 revolvers mentioned in yesterday's "China Mail," the seizure also comprised four Mauser pistols, four Luger pistols, 9,200 rounds of ammunition and six Luger stocks.

On another harbour boat Revenue Officers effected a haul, on the Kowloon side, of 4,300 rounds of ammunition. Subsequently a revolver was found, and a man arrested at a Sui Street fruit-stall.

The two men and the woman reported in Thursday's "China Mail" to have been arrested when Revenue Officers recovered a bag containing eight Mauser pistols with bullets and 500 rounds of ammunition from the harbour, have been committed to next Sessions.

ARMED ROBBERY.

SCANT SUCCESS IN A HUT.

An armed robbery occurred yesterday when four men, two carrying daggers, entered a hut at Kaupishek village, near Shamsulpo.

The efforts of the robbers, however, were not rewarded with much success as all they secured was a pair of bangles valued at \$6.

LOCAL WEATHER.

RAINFALL FIGURES FOR
LAST YEAR.

During the year 1924, rain fell on 151 days at the Botanical Gardens, the figure recorded being 105.51 inches. At the Matilda Hospital, Mount Kellet, the corresponding figures were 140 days and 104.28 inches; at the Tai Po Police Station 135 days and 96.36 inches; and at the Royal Observatory 141 days and 98.57 inches.

December Statistics.
In the month of December the figure were:—Botanical Gardens 3 days, 0.74 inch; Matilda Hospital 3 days, 0.95 inch; Tai Po 4 days 1.05 inches.

On December 5 the barometer, at sea level read 29.89. The maximum squall velocity was recorded on the 13th, the rate being 45 miles per hour.

COMPANIES REGISTER.

DEFUNCT CONCERNS TO BE
STRUCK OUT.

Notice has been given in the "Government Gazette" that unless cause is shown to the contrary within three months, the names of the United Motor Co., Ltd., and the Yangtze Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., will be struck off the register. If it fails to obtain a certificate to commence business within two months, the name of the Hongkong Mortgage and Share Brokers Co., Ltd., will also be removed.

COLONY'S WEALTH.

BALANCE OF NEARLY 17
MILLIONS.

To-day's "Gazette" gives the balance of the Colony's finances as at October 1, 1924.

On September 1 the Colony had in hand the sum of \$17,469,171.20. During the month of September revenue was \$1,407,630.60 and expenditure \$1,928,847.52. Accordingly the latest balance is \$16,947,954.28.

KOWLOON TROOPS.

COURT OF INQUIRY TO
SIT NEXT WEEK.

Major A. L. Cruickshank, D.S.O., R.A., has been appointed president of a Court of Inquiry which will sit on January 13 for the following purposes:—

To consider whether the troops now quartered in Kowloon can be accommodated in more concentrated areas than at present.

Investigate any accommodation which may have been misappropriated and verify the authority for such, if any. To recommend where doubt exists, on whose charge any unoccupied building should remain.

LINGERING COUGHS.

Bronchitis leaves a bad cough. So does influenza and is a gripe, but these hard, lingering coughs yield easily to the healing and curative qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Good for troublesome night coughs too. For sale everywhere.

OUR POPPY DAY.

WARM THANKS FROM
HOME.

"WONDERFUL SUCCESS."

Mr. H. Glanville, Chairman of the British Legion Poppy Day Sub-Committee sends us a copy of a letter dated December 4 received from the Organising Secretary of the Appeal Department of the British Legion at Home.

Mr. Glanville mentions that since the last figures were published the following further amounts have been remitted to London:—

Hongkong (Add.) £58. 3.10d.
Hangchow 48.12. 8
Wuhu 57.15. 9

The total remitted from Hongkong alone to date is £2,611.3.10d. and the total from Hongkong and China to date is £3,250.15.0d.

There still remain various small amounts to be collected and it is anticipated that the final total will exceed £3,300.

The letter from Home is as follows:—

Dear Mr. Glanville,—With further reference to your recent cablegram:—"Poppy Day great success. Hongkong alone over £2,000"—and our reply:—"Congratulations your wonderful success."—we have now received from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation of 9, Gracechurch Street, E.C.3., two cheques. One for £2,000 0s. 0d. and the other for £553 0s. 0d. for which official receipts are enclosed herewith.

It is difficult to express in words how much the splendid help of you and your Committee, in making possible the raising of so large an amount, is appreciated. The generous response made by the residents of Hongkong and district has been reported to Lord Haig, and doubtless his own letter of thanks will follow in due course. In the meantime, I am asked to say that this magnificent total will not only help considerably in the work of alleviating distress amongst ex-Service men, their dependants, and the widows and children of the fallen, but is a great encouragement to the 1,500 voluntary relief committee over here in this country who administer the money, to feel that the work they do on behalf of the British Legion and ex-Service men is considered worthy of such continued financial support from Hongkong and district.

May I say through you to all who contributed that this collection will bring renewed hope to many ex-Service homes this winter.

DANCE DISPLAY.

PRETTY SCENES AT QUEEN'S
THEATRE.

ANOTHER SUCCESS.

The evening performance which the pupils of Miss V. Capell gave at the Queen's Theatre yesterday was as successful as that of Wednesday afternoon and loud applause from an exceptionally large audience greeted each item in the well thought out programme.

Miss Capell and Miss Daisy O'Keefe are to be congratulated on the success of their training as shown in the polished performance of the dancers, also on their own individual and concerted items. They and the pupils were the recipients of bouquets and chocolates from appreciative admirers.

It is difficult to particularise in a performance of such outstanding merit but the following might be mentioned as particularly worthy of note,—the representation of the ever popular "Felix" by Miss Daphne Leach, the solo dance of Miss B. Pestonji and her pas-de-deux with Miss A. Mackenzie, the Irish Jig of the Misses B. Cassart and E. Hynes, the Russian Mazurka by older pupils and the many ensembles, particularly the Jewel Ballet.

Miss Capell wishes to thank the following for help which contributed considerably to the success attendant on the efforts of herself, Miss O'Keefe and the pupils:—Mrs. Pestonji, Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Jenkins, Miss O'Keefe, Miss Tolan, Miss Steel, Mrs. Cumming, Mrs. Rose for kindly making sweets, Miss Bragu, Miss McEwen, Miss Fothergill, Capt. Mitchell for presenting the whips, Mr. W. J. Carroll, Mr. F. P. Lantestey, Moutrie & Co., Ltd., The A.D.C. for the loan of scenery, Messrs. Wm. Powell, Ltd. for loan of furniture, Prof. Gonzales and orchestra, St. Vincent de Paul Society for loan of articles and Miss F. Goodall and Miss C. Smith for selling programmes in the street.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Whooping cough is hard on the child and hard on the parents. Control the dreadful whooping and coughing with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It induces quiet sleep but contains no narcotics nor other harmful substances. Sold and recommended everywhere.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

LAST NIGHT'S BALL.

A large number of guests assembled at Government House last night for the first ball of the New Year, a scene of unusual splendour prevailing among the gay throng of civilian and service guests.

H.E. the Governor and Lady Severn, in the absence of Lady Stubbs, received the guests at the head of the staircase leading to the ball-room. Chrysanthemums and ferns, artistically arranged at the entrance and sides of the ball-room, lent colour to the occasion.

LIST OF GUESTS INVITED.

Mr. and Mrs. C. de and Miss Albuquerque, Lieut. D. J. Allfree, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Atwell, Mr. T. W. Ainsworth, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Agassiz, Surg. Comm. G. P. Adshad, Dr. Dalmahoy Allan, Mr. J. W. Alabaster, Dr. and Mrs. J. Addison, Lt. Comm. G. P. Alley, Lieut. G. P. Cortlandt Anderson, Dr. J. W. Anderson, Lt. Comm. C. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Archbutt, Lieut. Agnew, Mr. and Mrs. Alcock, Inst. Lieut. C. E. Abelsor, Miss Susan Addis.

Comm. C. E. Brooke, Eng. Capt. G. H. Bromwich, Lt. Col. Mrs. and Miss. L. G. Bird, Capt. R. N. and Mrs. C. G. Brodie, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. and Mrs. Vernon Bird, Mr. L. H. V. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss C. B. Brown, Surg. Capt. and Mrs. H. S. Bumiston, Mr. B. O. Blaker, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. O. Bird, Lieut. D. H. V. Buckle, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. C. Bonnar, Mr. E. and Mrs. L. L. Bagot, Col. and Mrs. C. Russell Brown, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bartholomew, Lt. Comm. H. B. S. Beresford, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Miss R. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Sverre Borg, Mr. and Mrs. S. Baker, Capt. C. S. F. Bensley, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bell, Mr. D. G. Bruce, Miss A. H. Brennan, Mr. L. R. Blacking, Mr. and Mrs. Cedric Blaker, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Benson, Mr. M. J. Breen, Dr. and Mrs. G. D. R. Black, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Bennett, Eng. Comm. D. C. Bennett, Capt. R. D. Bennett, Capt. L. W. Bennett, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Bacchus, Mr. H. R. Butters, Lt. Col. F. S. Montague Bates, Miss P. W. Brown, Mr. T. S. Bustard, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Baines, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. C. Brooks, Lt. Comm. J. W. Bower, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Bromfield, Mr. and Mrs. B. D. F. Beith, Mr. G. A. Benson, Miss E. M. Bain, Mr. D. H. Blake, Miss G. Brice, Lt. Comm. N. A. Beal, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. F. Bellamy, Commander and Mrs. J. G. Bower, Lieut. P. A. Berry, R.N., Pay-Comm. and Mrs. W. J. A. Brown, Lieut. and Mrs. J. T. Bigg, Lieut. Comm. O. P. Bush, Major and Mrs. and Miss Bouchier, Eng. Comm. F. N. Buckmaster, Lt. Comm. and Mrs. M. W. Baiward, Capt. and Mrs. W. Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Barlow, Lieut. and Mrs. Blacklock, Comm. L. H. B. Bevan, Mr. P. H. Bartlett, Miss G. M. Blake.

Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. H. Cressy, Comm. Stefano Cavaro, Mr. A. Cameron, Major R. G. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. E. Cock, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Carpenter, Mrs. J. H. Cormack, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Cavalier, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Crook, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Compton, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Currie, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Collett, Mr. T. F. Claxton, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Cassidy, Capt. and Mrs. J. E. Chippindall, Lieut. Comm. J. Cresswell, R.N., Miss C. M. Crawford, Major and Mrs. A. L. Cruickshank, Capt. G. A. R.G.A., Mrs. and Miss Willmott Clements, Lieut. A. E. Cottam, Mr. and Mrs. C. Champkin, Lieut. R. N. F. C. Clutton, Mr. and Mrs. F. McD. Courtney, Mr. H. R. Cleland, Mr. D. H. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. H. Conant, Mr. Yves Du and Mrs. H. Courthall, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Carleton, Lieut. R. A. Chidson, Lieut. Col. A. S. Cantrell, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Cartwright, 2nd Lieut. D. S. Campbell, Capt. and Mrs. J. O. Carpenter, Lieut. Comm. and Mrs. H. B. Crane, Lieut. R. D. S. Crosse, R.N., Pay-Lieut. Chur-cher, Miss Culhane.

Lt. Colonel R. A. Dobbin, Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin, Mr. and Mrs. Denison, Lt. Comm. and Mrs. F. J. H. Dawson, Major J. F. Drake, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Davidson, Mr. M. G. Davidson, Mrs. W. J. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Danby, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Drollette, Mr. and Mrs. J. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Denny, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Dunnett, Capt. and Mrs. Miss T. R. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Dalgety, Mr. and Mrs. T. Dallas, Lieut. E. L. E. Davies, R.G.A., Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Duclos, Mr. and Mrs. J. Day, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Darch, Flag-Lieut. E. Dangerfield, Lieut. C. H. Dickens, Lieut. and Mrs. L. J. Dallas, R.N., Capt. R. C. Davenport, R.N., Professor and Mrs. Digby,

Mr. Donaldson, Lieut. Dray, Mr. R. C. Dewhurst, Mr. T. W. Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Elliott, Mrs. and Misses Somers, Dorothea and Margaret Ellis, Lieut. E. Edmondstone, R.N., Vice-Admiral Sir Allan F. Everett, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., I.C.B., Major and Mrs. H. R. Edwards, R.A.M.C.

His Excellency Major-General Sir John and Lady Fowler, Lt. Col. F. G. Fitzgerald, Mr. J. W. Franks, M. et Mdm. M. Fitzhenry, Capt. and Mrs. W. A. Fausset, Mr. A. Forbes and Miss Majorie H. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. D. Forrest, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. L. Forster, Lieut. E. C. Frederick, Mr. J. Fleming, Mr. J. C. Fletcher, Mr. L. W. Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Faid, Dr. J. B. Fehly, Mr. and Mrs. Roydon Farrant, Capt. S. Feary, R.E., Miss G. Footergill, Lieut. I. B. Farrant.

His Honour Mr. Justice and Mrs. H. H. Gompertz, Mr. V. M. Grayburn, Mr. R. H. L. Gompertz, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Goldsmith, Miss A. M. Grant, Major and Mrs. T. C. Greenwood, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Green, Lieut. H. C. Gould, R.A., Miss E. C. Geoghegan, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. B. Goodfellow, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Goggin, Lt. Comm. and Mrs. Green, Mr. and Mrs. U. C. Galluzzi, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Greenhill, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Greene, Mr. G. H. Gompertz, Mr. and Mrs. H. Green, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Gillingham, Lieut. R. C. S. Gardner, R.N., Mr. H. Glenville, Dr. D. R. Gaylor, Lieut. G. R. Gibson, R.N., Miss E. F. Greenhill, Sir Henry Golan, Lieut. A. Grant, Lieut. Comm. Green.

Hon. Mr. and Mrs. P. Holyoak, Miss Joyce and Miss Dorothy Holyoak, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. C. Hornell, Mr. W. W. Hornell, C.I.E., Capt. G. Hopwood, O.B.E., R.N., Capt. and Mrs. B. H. Collis Hallowes, R.F.A., S.R., Mr. and Mrs. A. and Miss Joyce Hollingsworth, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hegarty, Lieut. H. L. C. Hall, R.G.A., Mr. and Mrs. J. Owen Hughes, Mr. H. and Miss V. Owen Hughes, Surg. Lt. Comm. M. F. Hopson, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Haslam, Capt. and Mrs. C. F. T. Haigh, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hay, Major and Mrs. Hingston, Capt. B. S. Hey, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Holmes, Lieut. Comm. Conway Hake, R.N.R., Dr. Harston, the Misses Harston, Mr. H. C. R. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. B. Hancock (Dick), Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Henderson, Eng. Comm. and Mrs. S. Hocken, Mr. W. Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. C. Howarth, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Handyside, Mr. T. M. Hazlerigg, Eng. Comm. H. E. Hoopell, Capt. and Mrs. C. D. Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Hale, Major E. S. Halford, R.G.A., Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hollands, Miss A. E. Hendry, Lt. Major F. G. M.C., and Mrs. Hyland, Lt. A. M. Harris, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hall, Lieut. F. A. Henslow, R.G.A., Lieut. J. A. C. R.N., and Mrs. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hancock, Miss Helen Hurrey, Mr. J. M. Hood, Lt. Comm. C. R. H. Harvey, Lieut. A. E. Horrell, R.N., Sgt. Lt. G. F. C. Hunot, Lt. Comm. G. F. Hole, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hett, Surg. Comm. W. L. Hawkins, Mr. L. E. Hopkins, Mr. H. B. C. Holmes, Capt. J. C. Hamilton.

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Capt. and Mrs. C. E. Lugard, Eng. Comm. C. S. Limpenny, Lieut. R. Leeds, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lauder, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. W. Logan, Mr. C. Lafrentz, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Lewis, Inst. Lt. Comm. A. J. Low, Lieut. G. A. Leslie, Mr. L. M. S. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Lessak, Mr. O. S. Lubattie, M. et Mme. A. Lecot, Major and Mrs. R. R. Lewis, Mr. C. Fitzroy Lloyd, Mr. W. H. Lock, Lieut. and Mrs. F. W. Lewis, Lieut. Comm. C. S. Lockhart, Mr. Lymbery.

Miss E. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Munton, Lieut. Comm. G. E. Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. S. McDermid, Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, Mr. and Mrs. G. Miskin, Eng. Comm. and Mrs. S. G. Miskin, Dr. C. W. McKenny, Captain G. D. Meredith, Mr. K. McGregor, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. R. Mitchell, Miss McKellar, Mr. and Mrs. A. Murdoch, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Matheson, Mr. P. H. Matheson, Captain J. M. Murphy, Miss E. C. McLaren, Lieut. J. G. Moncreiff, Eng. Comdr. Montgomery, Cap-

LINK WITH PAST.

FORMER HONGKONG-MAN'S DEATH.

"UNCLE" WARD'S CAREER.

Another link with Old Tientsin has been removed in the death, which took place at the French Hospital, Tientsin, of Mr. W. S. Ward, of Fairchild and Co. To the older foreign residents of the port especially the news will come as a severe shock, for he was held in high esteem and warm affection.

"Uncle" Ward, as he was generally called, was a man of striking personality. He had not been feeling quite so robustly fit since his lung trouble some two years ago, but was nevertheless an extraordinary active and energetic man for his age. He was in the office on Christmas Eve, but during the holidays he developed pneumonia, and passed away at the French Hospital, at the age of 73. He was married only 12 years or so ago, and leaves a family of young children, three boys and one girl.

Mr. Ward had been in the Far East half a century, coming out in the Army somewhere about 1874 to Hongkong. He left the Army to join the Hongkong Police, and later joined the Chinese Maritime Customs. After serving in the Customs a number of years he went into business in the North. Under the name of W. S. Ward and Co. he did a considerable export business, mostly in furs and skins, but suffered heavily during the Boxer outbreak, his premises and most of their contents being burned.

He joined Mr. MacLay in business for a while, successfully conducted the Horse Bazaar on Race Course Road, was Secretary of the Tientsin Club for some years and, up till just before the war was in the employ of Brand Bros. beyond the Great Wall, in Manchuria. For the last ten years he has been in the employ of Mr. Fairchild.

tajn and Mrs. R. A. F. Montanaro, Tenente Macchinista Marolda, Mr. and Mrs. W. North.

Major T. T. Oakes, Lieut. and Mrs. H. N. Oram.

Hon. Sir Henry and Lady Pollock, Captain K. Puckle, Miss Percival.

Lieut. Comdr. R. Ramsbotham, Guardiamarina Resio, Tenente de Vascello Risani, Paymaster Commander N. F. Roy, Major and Mrs. A. M. Rotherham.

Guardiamarina Salom, Lieut. D. A. Searle, Lieut. W. D. Stephens, Hon. Sir Claud and Lady Severn, Lt. Colonel and Mrs. Orpen Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Smith, Commodore Mrs. and Miss Stirling, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Scott, Commander A. R. Smithwick, Mrs. Staples Smith, Sir Albert, Lady and Miss Spicer, Captain M. H. Spicer, Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. Stack.

Sir Eric and Lady Stuart Taylor, Mr. W. J. Terry, S. Tenente Commis. Tiana, Major L. Chenevix Trench.

Tenente de Vascello Viglieri, Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, Mr. J. E. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Womack, Lieut. Comdr. H. C. Woolrych, Captain and Mrs. C. T. Williams, Mr. Hamburg Williams.

Mr. G. M. Young.

Matron and Sisters of Government Civil Hospital.

Matilda Hospital.

Military Hospital.

Royal Naval Hospital.

Peak Hospital.

Victoria Hospital.

DANCES.

Extra Valse, Out of the Shadows.

1.—Fox Trot Marcheta.

2.—Fox Trot.

Cover me with Kisses.

3.—Valse, Moonlight Memories.

4.—Fox Trot.

Nights in the Woods.

5.—Fox Trot.

6.—Fox Trot, My Girl.

7.—One Step Wow!

8.—Valse Through the Night.

9.—Fox Trot.

It ain't goin' to rain no mo!

10.—One Step Oh Harold.

11.—Fox Trot.

Tell her at Twilight.

12.—Valse.

The West, a Nest, and You.

PEACE IN CHINA.

STATEMENT BY SIR ROBERT HO TUNG.

THE FIRST STEP.

From the following statement which has been sent to the "China Mail" by Sir Robert Ho Tung there would appear to be no grounds for the inference which was drawn from his early return from Shanghai that he considered the opportunity of arriving at a national settlement was lost.

I am back in Hongkong and do not regret my visit to Shanghai if only for the fact that, while there, the Shanghai Peace Conference Committee had the satisfaction of knowing that the purpose for which it was established has been accomplished, viz., a Rehabilitation Conference is to be followed later by a National Conference, as the first step for the reunification of China.

It must be admitted at the outset that the political situation presented such a hopeful outlook that the Committee saw fit to call upon me to proceed to Shanghai without delay. Subsequent events so completely altered the situation that complications soon made themselves felt. Marshal Tuan's assumption of administration as Chief Executive had led to the recognition of the fact that the country's rehabilitation rests, primarily, on speedy unification by peaceful methods. This recognition is seen in Tuan Chih-jui's mandate calling for the two Conferences just mentioned.

So far the names of the invited delegates have not been made public in Hongkong, but at Shanghai I gathered that most of the militarists and politicians and party leaders have received invitations. Whether every one of the invited delegates will accept is a moot point. The only individual representing commercial interests to be asked to attend, as far as I know, is the Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce at Shanghai. The majority of the members of the Shanghai Peace Committee rejoice in the fact that the very raison d'être of the Committee's formation has been so forcefully recognized by the leaders of the present-day Government in authority, that it feels itself moved to take the most effective step to bring the militarists and politicians together in order to find a common ground on which to meet for the purpose of securing and bringing peace to the country at large.

In their laudable desire to accomplish what I have set out to achieve during the past two years, the promoters of the Rehabilitation Movement have my heartiest good wish, and I fervently pray that they might meet with complete success.

ASTOR HOUSE.

DEATH OF MR. GERMANN.

Mr. Alexander Germann, licensee of the Astor House Hotel, died at the Government Civil Hospital yesterday afternoon, after a brief illness.

Mr. Germann suffered from anæmia and had been in ill-health for some time. His condition some days ago gave cause for anxiety; he gradually grew worse and passed away as stated.

Mr. Germann came to Hongkong from Singapore over 15 years ago and on arrival was connected with the Grand Hotel. Later he went to the Astor House Hotel, where he had been for the last nine years. He was 51 years of age.

YOUR INTERNAL MACHINERY

needs stimulation at times. Clogged intestines and imperfect liver action are causes of mental dullness, sick headaches, biliousness and many other ills.

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intestinal activity Pinkettes are perfection, so gentle are they in action, yet so certain in result. Your chemist sells Pinkettes, or post free 60 cents per vial, from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 60 Kansas Road, Shanghai.

Pinkettes Keep You Well.

PICTURE POINTS.

FORM THE "HILL BILLY" AT THE STAR.

Last time of showing to-night. See Jack Pickford's biggest picture—his own creation.

A simple tale of a simple maid and a simple lad—yet full of mystery and wonderment to the very last chapter. Leave the mundane things of Hongkong for a night and let yourself be transported to the Kentucky mountains.

If you love a sweet little country maid see Lucille Rickson, the sixteen-year-old screen actress, who began her cinema career as a cupid.

What the children love to see the parents and guardians must also like—and "The Hill Billy" is a story that appeals to all ages.

The first scene shows a wolf, standing on the top of a mountain, silhouetted against the sky—there also are wolves in sheep's clothing in the actual story.

Thrilling is the episode in which the "bad men" of the picture conspire to rob the mountain people of their heritage of coal.

See the great scene on the falls, where the hero and his arch-enemy struggle for dear life on a raft, which collapses.

There are other great points about the picture—but go to the Star to-night and see these for yourself.

SHADOWS BEFORE.

Coming Events Advertised in the Mail.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

January 10.—Coronet Theatre; "Merry-go-round."

January 10.—Star Theatre; "The Hill Billy."

January 10.—World Theatre; "Merry-go-round."

January 10.—Queen's Theatre; "Within The Law."

January 10.—City Hall; Concert by Eugene and Leopold Premyslav, world-famous Polish musicians, 9.15 p.m.

January 11.—World Theatre; "The Love Pirate."

January 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17.—Hongkong A.D.C.'s production, "St. Joan," 9 p.m. January 14, and 17, matinees at 4.30 p.m.

January 12.—Concert at Star Theatre, by the world-famous Polish musicians, Eugene and Leopold Premyslav, 9.15 p.m.

SOCIAL.

January 23.—Fancy Dress Ball in the Grill Room, Hongkong Hotel, 8 p.m. to midnight.

SPORTS.

January 31.—Hongkong Boxing Association tournament in City Hall.

February 16-17-18-21.—Hongkong Jockey Club Annual Race Meetings.

LAND SALE.

January 12.—At P.W.D. Offices, two lots of Crown land at Kau Pui Shek, Kowloon, 3 p.m.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

January 14.—Lammert Bros., at Sales Room, evening and afternoon gowns from Paris, embroidered lace and insertions, and white flannel, 11 a.m.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

January 14.—Extraordinary General Meeting of the Star Ferry Co., Ltd., at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's office room, noon.

January 17.—First ordinary meeting of the Hongkong Development, Building and Savings Society, Ltd., at the City Hall, Hall, noon.

February 2.—Twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Star Ferry Co., at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's, at noon.

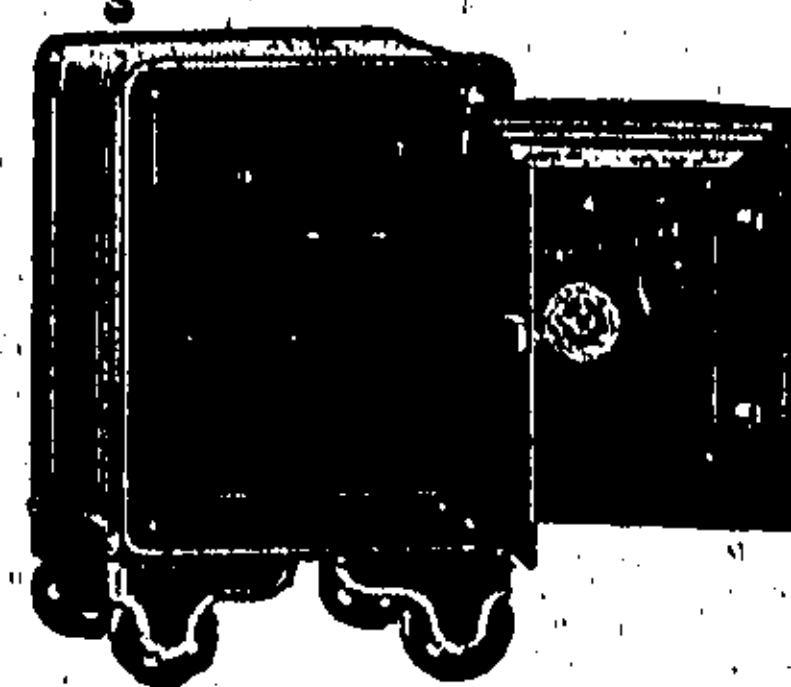
OTHER MEETING.

January 30.—Annual meeting of seaholders and subscribers of St. John's Cathedral, in the Cathedral Hall, 6.45 p.m.

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- L1532 Part 3.—(a) Allegro molto vivace; (b) Allegro moderato; Part 4.—(a) Andante ma non troppo; (b) Più mosso; (c) Andante moderato;
- L1533 Part 5.—(a) Andante moderato; (b) Adagio.
- L1534 Part 6.—(a) Allegretto; (b) A l'agio ma non troppo; Part 7.—(a) Allegretto; (b) Presto (First Half); Part 8.—Presto (Second Half);
- L1535 Part 9.—(a) Adagio; (b) Allegro (First Half); Part 10.—Allegro (Conclusion).

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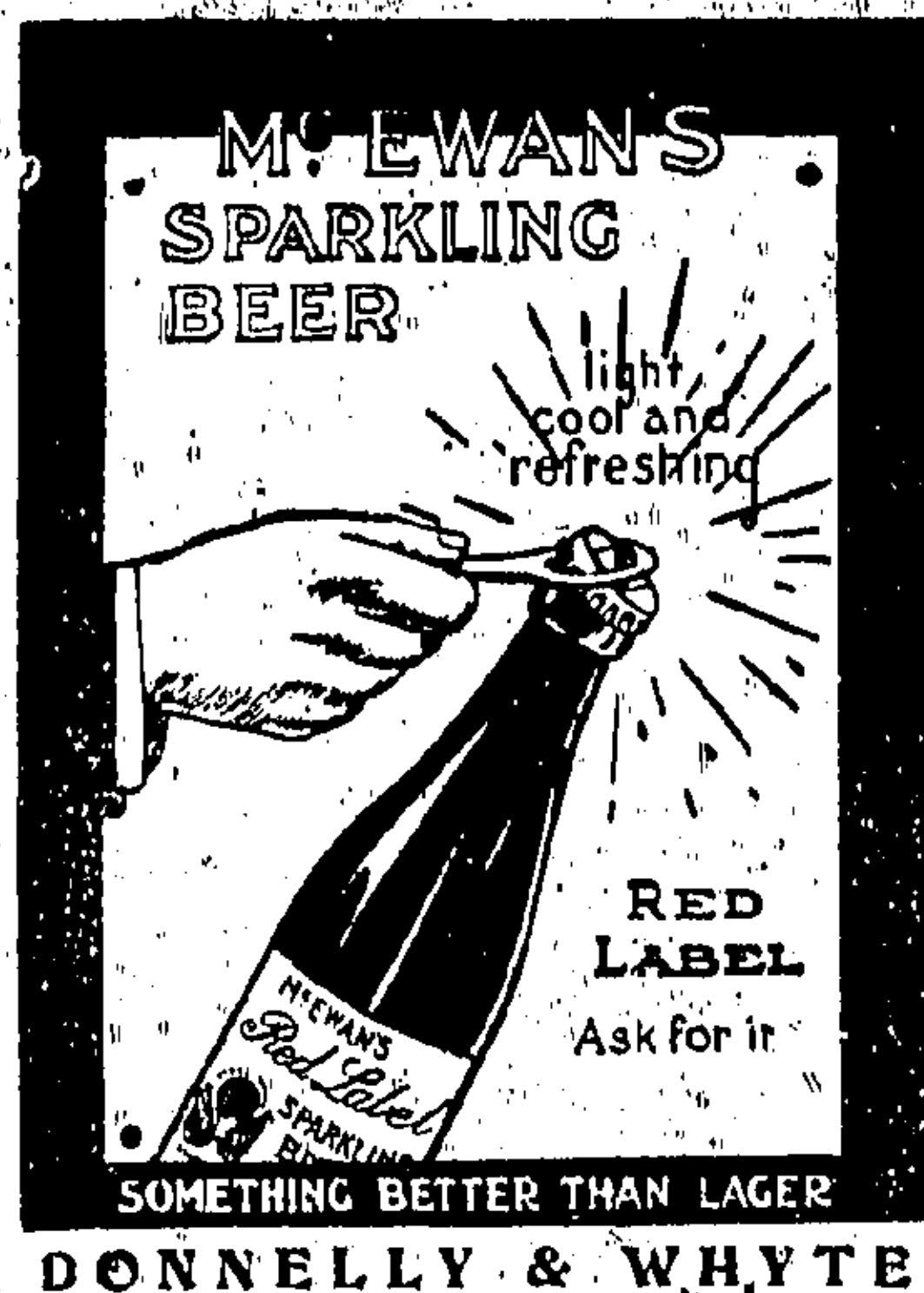
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WOMEN DOG CATCHERS.



MRS. D. M. FREEMAN & MISS J. SNYDER

The first women dog catchers have made their appearance in the employ of the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. They are shown here making their first capture.

"Second Helen Keller."



KATHERINE M. FRICK

Miss Katherine May Frick, deaf, dumb and blind, is called the "second Helen Keller." She has been taught to read and write and use a type writer. Miss Frick recently celebrated her twenty-fourth birthday.

RARE CHINESE ART OBJECTS.



ADMIRAL LEE YUK TIN

Admiral Lee Yuk-tin, Commissioner of the Chinese Republic to investigate world currencies, has reached London with a rare collection of Chinese art objects, some of them 4,000 years old, unearthed in the garden of his home in the Kwei Kow hills. They were in the tomb of the Emperor Nien Yurth. The Chinese Government offered \$800,000 for the objects, but the admiral refused to sell. He is shown here with a bronze urn and a tablet of authority.



MISS ZOE M. EVANS

Alleging that George Brinton Caldwell, banker, jilted her for a school teacher, Mrs. Zoe Evans, a hotel manicurist, has filed suit for \$50,000 for alleged breach of promise.

YOUNG MAN'S MOTOR CAR DEATH.



MISS MARJORIE SCHNEIDER & HER ATTORNEY

Miss Marjorie Schneider, shown here with her lawyer, told the jury her story of the death of Charles G. Rogers, nephew of Mrs. Ogden Reid, wife of the publisher of the "New York Herald-Tribune." The girl admitted, it is said, that she and Rogers had been drinking in a roadhouse after a football game in New Haven, and that they were driving home in her car, with her at the wheel, when Rogers struck his head out of the window and was struck by a telegraph pole and killed.



E. F. W. ALEXANDERSON

E. F. W. Alexanderson was in charge of the corps of engineers who perfected instruments by which pictures have been sent over the ocean by wireless.

FIGURES IN THE NEWS SPOTLIGHT.



Below: KING GEORGE & QUEEN MARY
Below: GRAND DUCHESS CYRIL & DR. CASSARANE
King George and Queen Mary have been put under special guard as a result of rumours that Egyptian fanatics were plotting against their lives. Grand Duchess Cyril of Russia, whose husband lays claim to the throne of the Romanoffs, has arrived in London. Dr. Puig Cassarane has been appointed Secretary of Education in the Cabinet of President Calles, of Mexico, whose hobby is the advancement of education.

Rides King's Horses.



W. ALFORD

W. Alford, well-known jockey, has been engaged as chief rider for the horses racing in the colours of King George.

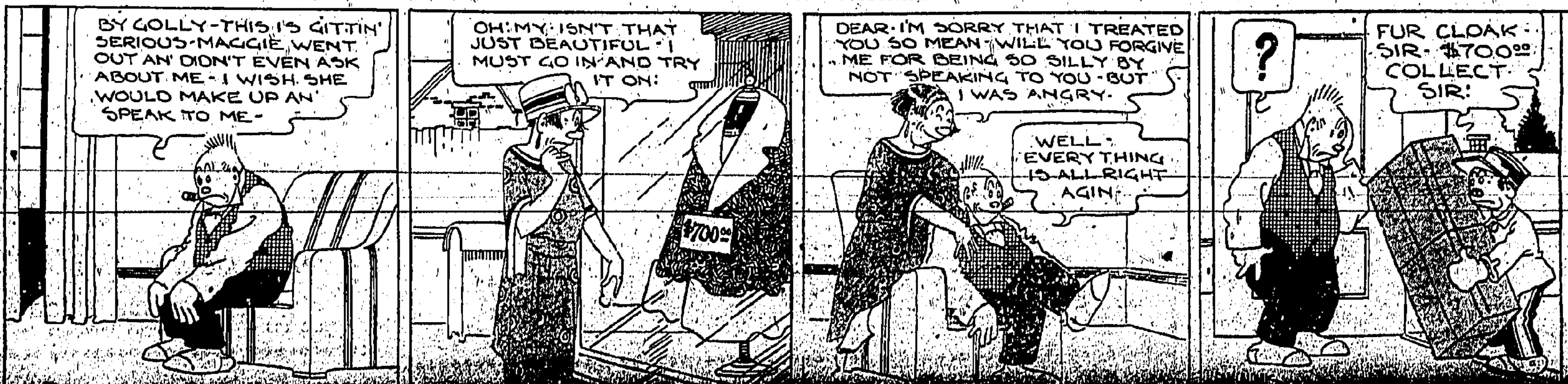
PREPARED FOR HOLY YEAR.



RESTORING ST. PETERS

A boy of the lamprini is shown here suspended by a rope from a ledge above St. Peter's in Rome, so that he could clean the figures in preparation for the Holy Year celebration in the Vatican, which opened on Christmas Day and lasts a full year. Holy Year occurs every 25 years.

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Saturday Programme

1. — Violin —
Concerto E-minor.....Mendelssohn
Allegro molto appassionato
Andante
Finale—Allegro vivace
2. — Cello —
Capriccio
Adagio
Menuett con Variationen Locatelli
3. — Violin —
Slavonic Dance.....Dvorak
Eli, Eli.....Hebrew Melody
La Ronde des Lutins Bazzani
4. — Cello —
Menuett.....Becker
Elegie.....Tchaikowsky
Vito.....Popper
5. — Violon & Cello —
Passacaglia (by request) Handel.

Monday Programme

1. — Violin —
Sonata G-minor.....Tartini
Moderato Presto Largo Allegretto
Variations.....Corelli
2. — Cello —
Suite D-major, (17th century)
Allegro Caix de Mervelois
Prelude Grave
Menuett
Piastra
La Neapolitaine
3. — Violin —
Int. education at Tarentelle.....Sarasat
Nocturne D-major.....Chopin
Souvenir de Moscou.....Wienawski
4. — Cello —
Canzonetta.....Godard
Andante.....Haydn
Papillon.....Popper
5. — Violin & Cello —
Prelude.....Grieg
Scherzo.....Grieg

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The U.S.S. "Sacramento" is now at Shanghai for an indefinite stay.

The results of the retreat of defeated troops and the disbandment of others already are being felt around Shanghai. It is reported from Footang that 20 such men, all armed with pistols or rifles, suddenly entered the district, fired a volley into the air and then commenced to loot the shops. A member of the volunteer body formed to maintain order raised an alarm and was badly wounded by the robbers, who then, fearing the vengeance of police or regular troops, made for the open country.

The Belfast built, cruiser "Vindictive"—so named in honour of the stout old third-class cruiser which left her hull in the waters at the bottling up of the "hornet's nest"—in one of the finest achievements of the British fleet—is being reconditioned at Chatham to take a place in the China Squadron. The work is to be completed about the end of March and will cost about \$152,000 to complete. Her chief armament lies in the half dozen of 7.5-inch guns, which are mounted behind armoured protections, on the centre line of the ship, and have an all-round fire. The 7.5-inch gun throws a projectile of 200 lbs. weight to a long distance and with great smashing effect.

Shanghai people returning from Christmas holidays in Hangchow continue to tell exciting stories of the way they managed to return after the railway was cut. One party determined to go to Ningpo where they could board a steamer, and they used rickshas, sampans, carts and even walked, a certain distance. Unfortunately, as they were crossing the river, the sampan capsized and threw them into the water. They had a narrow escape, but reached their goal—the wharf where the Shanghai-bound ship was moored.

Tenders are called in the "Gazette" for the supply of 15 pilot coats for European Revenue Officers, and for the supply of 5,000 tons of coal to be delivered by April 1.

A proclamation regarding the judgments (Facilities for Enforcement) Ordinance, 1921, of Hongkong, as extended to superior courts in the F.M.S., appears in the "Government Gazette."

A number of members of the Shanghai Municipal Police have returned from home leave in England. These were Sub-Inspector Robertson, Detective Sergeants Douglas and Robertson, and Sergeants Crowley and Pike.

Particulars can be obtained from the Government Marine Surveyor regarding tenders for a new Police Launch. The principal dimensions are: length 100 feet O.A.; length 94 feet B.P.; breadth 21 feet moulded; depth 10 feet 6 inches moulded; maximum draft mean 7 feet 6 inches.

A Shanghai man, who with his wife went on a shooting trip over Christmas, had the misfortune to run into the war zone near Feng-ching where they were stopped and their boat searched. The reason given by the soldiers for this search, was that in the last war "certain foreigners" found in the war zone allowed General Sun Chuan-fang's soldiers to use their houseboats for conveying machine-guns up the creeks and taking the Chekiang soldiers at a disadvantage!

An order was made by his Honour Judge Sir Skinner Turner in H.M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, for the annulment of a receiving order granted against Messrs. Horace Hanbury, Charles Jackson White and William A. White. The order was in connection with the receivership of the Central Garage Mr. D. R. Cooke appeared as official receiver, and stated that the scheme submitted at the last hearing had been approved and that the mortgage had been executed to his satisfaction. He asked his Lordship to discharge the receiving order.

One case of small pox, Chinese, was notified on Thursday.

The Shanghai A. D. C. are at present engaged in rehearsing "The Mikado," which will be presented at the Lyceum Theatre about the end of this month.

Governor-General Wood has suspended four members of the Manila City Council for corruption in awarding a contract for building city schools, says a message from Manila.

The Shanghai American Players announce that the mystery play "The Thirteenth Chair" will be presented some time during February under the direction of Mrs. Gardner Crane.

The "Nieuw Sourabaya Courant" learns that tens of thousands of guilders have been embezzled by a few native princes in the Sultanate at Djocja. The money was intended for the Royal Grants. The Government will hold an enquiry into the leakages.

The Russian Embassy in Paris has been made over to the representatives of the Soviet Government. The portraits of the late Tsar and Tsarina have been sent to the Grand Duke Nicholas, who now resides near Paris. The plate belonging to the Embassy is valued at \$200,000, each piece bearing the Imperial arms. The fine furniture of the State rooms of the Embassy was worth \$50,000, but has suffered from neglect during the last few years.

At Cologne recently the Cardinal Bishop of Cologne, in the presence of a huge congregation, baptised and consecrated the new huge bell, the cost of which has been met by State grant, municipal levy, and private subscription, to replace the "Kaiserlocke," which towards the end of the war was lowered from its place in the south tower and cut up to be converted into munitions of war to be used against the French, even as it itself had been mainly cast from French cannon captured in 1879.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. C. G. Humphreys returned to Shanghai from home.

Mr. W. H. Loft has been appointed Deputy Naval Store Officer at Weihaiwei.

Mr. M. J. Upcott, leader of the Singapore Star, will probably be going home early this year.

Mr. W. Armstrong, Director of Criminal Intelligence, who has been on home leave, has returned to Shanghai.

The marriage has taken place at Colpetty, Colombo, of Mr. E. H. Macgregor, of Messrs. Cargills Ltd., son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Macgregor, of Strathbungo, Glasgow, with Miss Elvira Elsie Macaulay, daughter of Major and Mrs. Macaulay of Wanganni, New Zealand.

The Hon. Mr. Harold Thomas Creasy, Director of Public Works, has had his appointment as an official member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, approved by H. M. the King with effect from November 18, 1924.

H. E. the Governor has appointed Dr. Joseph Patrick Fehly to be a medical officer for the purposes of Section 6 of the Coroners' Abolition Ordinance, 1888, and Section 13 of the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1896.

Commander R. R. Mann, United States Navy, head of the Naval radio station at Los Banos, died last week in Sternberg General Hospital, Manila, of acute peritonitis. Commander Mann had been ill only three or four days. Commander Mann is survived by his wife, who is in Manila at present, and by his 13 year old son, who is in the Brent School in Baguio.

After a life-time spent in mission work in China, Mrs. John Newton Hayes (Mercie Briggs) passed away at the home of her son, Mr. Egbert M. Hayes, 724 Dixwell Road, Shanghai. Mrs. Hayes, who was 71, had been a member of the Presbyterian Mission in China for more than 40 years past, during almost all of that time, being stationed at Sochow. She and Mr. Hayes had retired from mission work about a year ago and had since resided in Shanghai. Mrs. Hayes is survived by her husband, two sons, Egbert M. and Newton Hayes, and two daughters, all of whom are engaged in mission work in China.

Mr. W. Turner, manager of Reuter's, arrived here by the "Empress of Russia" on a short visit.

Sir George Gibb, who arrived in the Colon on the "Morea," is Chairman of the parent company of the China and Japan Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., and is here on business connected with the local company's contract with the Government.

Sir Albert Spicer, of the well-known firm of paper merchants, after sixty years in the City of London, has retired from business management. He and Lady Spicer are passengers on the P. & O. "Morea," now passing through Hongkong, en route to the North where they intend visiting their missionary daughter, Miss Eva Dykes Spicer, B.A., Oxford, at Nanking.

Dr. Frederick G. Bonser, Professor of Education at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, is a passenger by the "President Wilson." Dr. Bonser is the author of several books on educational topics, the last published being "The Elementary School Curriculum."

Dr. A. C. Price, who is a passenger by the "Macedonia," has served the Chinese community of Shanghai for over ten years as a member of the staff of Shantung Road Hospital, and on his departure has been the recipient of presentations both from the foreign and Chinese Staff. Dr. Price will spend some time in India, where his parents are living, and will then proceed to England.

Mr. V. Montgomery, who was recently in Bangkok, started from Canton without clothes, money or baggage, on a walk round the world for a wager. He set out attired in old newspapers and got his first suit from the police of Canton. He is now making for Ceylon via India on this journey. At Calcutta he told a "Statesman" representative that he reached Bangkok from Hongkong with his finances in a low condition, and set out to walk to Moumein, arriving after an adventurous journey over mountains, plain and river. During his long trek he existed solely on bananas and rice. He spoke warmly of the kindness of the villagers he encountered en route. He met only four Europeans. From Moumein Mr. Montgomery walked to Bangkok.

In to-day's "Gazette," the appointments of Mr. Tsang Sheng and Mr. Ip Cheuk as Forest Officers and Mr. Li Kwai-fat as Foreman Forester at the Taipo Reserve, are notified.

The first Shanghai wedding of the new year was solemnized at Holy Trinity Cathedral on Saturday afternoon, when Miss Florence Beryl McCann, daughter of the late Mr. Henry Edward McCann and Mrs. McCann, was married to Mr. Arthur George Philip Dewing, son of Mr. Charles Dewing and the late Mrs. Dewing. Dean Symonds officiated.

A Nairobi message says the Duke and Duchess of York arrived at Mombassa on December 22. The town was in a fête. The Duchess wore a cream colour costume with a white sun helmet. The Duke, who wore a white Naval Captain's uniform and blue sash, shook hands cordially with the Governor, officials and everybody. Arabs and Goans presented addresses in beautifully illuminated ivory caskets. The Aga Khan's followers also presented an address. Their Royal Highnesses then left for Government House. The procession consisted of five cars. The Governor was in the first, the Duke and Duchess of York in the second, Lady Annally and officials in others. After a private lunch Their Royal Highnesses attended a vast dancing festival in which every tribe was represented. The Duchess was smiling and highly amused. The Aga Khan's followers were the only Indians who were actively represented.

An incident that had actually taken place in front of the palace of the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies at Buitenzorg about a fortnight ago, was reported in nearly all the papers, says a Java exchange. One night, at about 8 o'clock, His Excellency was returning to the palace, and the sentry on duty near the entrance to the palace challenged him. The Governor-General said he was the "G.G." The sentry, a new soldier just transferred from an outstation, replied, "I don't know you, come nearer for my inspection." His Excellency had to go nearer to him without receiving any salute first, and to his surprise the soldier said, "Anyhow I believe you at this time," and the salute was at last given to His Excellency. The next day this new soldier was sent for by his superior. He was thereafter ordered to have a good view of His Excellency's big photograph from 4 p.m. till 5 p.m. at the palace for 14 days.

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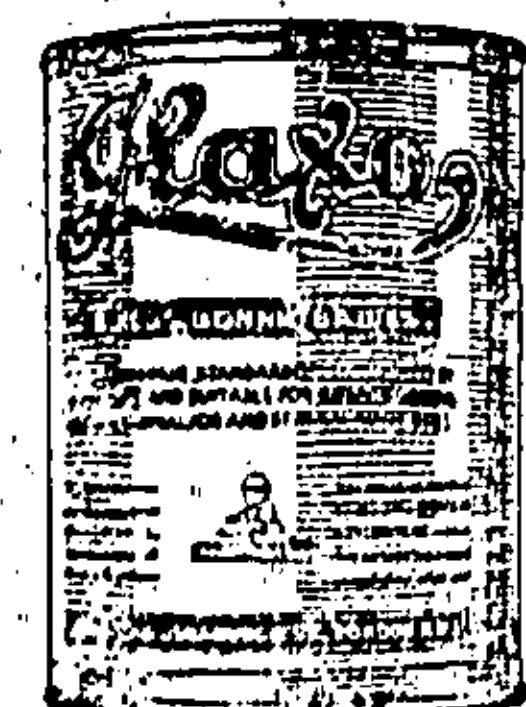
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THE NEW YEAR.

SERMON ON MUFFLED BELLS.

Preaching at the Wesleyan Methodist Church last Sunday, the Rev. C. Clouston Forri, H.C.F., took as his text:—

"Repent ye, Jesus said"—for the Kingdom of the heavens is now close at hand. Mat. 3:2.

Custom ordains that we view the New Year as a fair Land of Promise in which the old order will change yielding place to new.

"Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring happy bells across the snow."

The year is going, let him go. Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Optimists by habit we welcome the change of the calendar. Each New Year finds us hopeful. "The best is yet to be." The passing years bring nearer the superlative.

Optimists by conviction, we believe in the Coming of a New-World order, of the advent of a Kingdom of righteousness, peace, love, joy, of the Kingdom of God.

Optimist, we take our place with the Seers of the past and the prophets of the present, we join with theirs, our voices: "Prepare ye, prepare ye the way of the Lord." "The Kingdom of God is close at hand."

We have chosen as our message for the New Year, the message with which the Supreme Optimist opened His Mission and announced as imminent the new world-order of the Kingdom of God.

We are not immediately concerned with the developments of the idea of the new world-order. Hebrew prophets denounced the old order and heralded the new, the prophets of our own day condemn the old and publish the new. "Ring out the old, ring in the new" is their slogan. We are most concerned with the interval between the order that is and the order that is to be; the interval of waiting, preparing, being made ready to participate in the Coming Kingdom.

The Gospel from which our text is taken most characteristically finds a precedent for the evangelic preparation in history and prophecy. Herald voices had awakened the night of exile with the promise that the day of freedom would dawn.

"Hark one calling!" "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord."

Centuries of preparation passed. The voice became incarnate, in the wilderness of Judea, John the Baptist, appeared as herald, proclaiming "the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand," prepare ye.

Prophets and herald had, prepared the way for the Coming of Jesus, who also announced the advent of the Kingdom and called the nation to make ready.

"Ring out the old, ring in the new." Ring happy bells! We shall miss the happy bells as we listen to prophets, herald and the Christ, we shall hear muffled bells, bells of penitence that toll the passing of the old. Preparation for the new begins with repentance, repentance which may mean sorrow, heart-break and agony of soul.

The prophet cries: "Therefore also now saith the Lord, turn ye even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting and with weeping, and with mourning. And rend your hearts and not your garments and turn into the Lord your God."

"Repent ye for the Kingdom of the heavens is now close at hand," published the herald. "Bring forth fruits meet for repentance." "Repent ye for the Kingdom is at hand." It was with this message that Christ began His Mission of hope and repentance when the Baptist was a prisoner of Herod.

"Repent ye"—cried the twelve disciples sent forth to proclaim the Kingdom. "So they set forth," writes S. Mark, "and preached in order that men might repent." "Repent ye"—the summons was unheeded. An unrepentant nation rejected the Christ. An unrepentant people crucified as an impostor the King, whose Kingdom is not of this world. Pentecost dawned, the beginning of a new era in the history of the Kingdom, a chastened crowd listened to the story of the cross and the triumph of the Crucified; and heard of the Christ living and enthroned. "What shall we do?" they cried. The new order of the Kingdom of God was at hand, the crowd must be prepared before it could pass the threshold and enter in. What do "Repent ye"—the Apostles had learned from their master the way of the Kingdom.

"Repent ye." We who pray done on earth as in heaven," who believe that the Kingdom is close at hand, that the old order is passing and that the new rule must yield place to the Kingdom of the Heavenly Father, which is

heralds, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." "Repent ye," "Ring out the old, ring in the new." Toll muffled bells of penitence.

Jesus was an optimist. He announced good-tidings. He proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom and viewed the reign of God as close at hand. He was the Divine Optimist, who could pronounce "Blessed are they which mourn" and who could call men "to repent and to believe the good news." He was the Divine Teacher who taught men that they could only welcome the new order by a complete renunciation of the old order. The divinely appointed turning-point was repentance.

"Who has warned you to escape from the coming wrath?" demanded the Baptist of the repentant Jews. Repentance may be of the nature of an escape from the Coming Wrath but Jesus saw it as an escape into the Coming Kingdom.

Jesus appeared as the Preacher of Hope, of the Coming of the Kingdom of God as the realisation of God's will, which must ultimately become the Common Will. He laboured, suffered, taught and by the agony and shame of the Cross wrought for the founding of a hostile world of the Kingdom of the heavens. He believed, that established the reign of God, the nations of the world would be united in righteousness, peace, love and joy under the Kingly rule of His Father and the Father of Men. Jesus came to a world weary of waiting for a divinely-ordered Kingdom but a world which all preparation had left unprepared. Jesus preached hope, but before the day of hope could dawn a repentant people must be made ready to greet the new day. Jesus summoned the Jewish nation to repentance. He found them expectant but not repentant. They rejected the good news because Jesus called them "to repent and believe, the Gospel." The Apostles appeared on the day of Pentecost as preachers of hope, after night had fallen upon the Cross on which the Jewish nation had crucified their King, the Kingdom was nearer at hand; an unexpected crowd listened to the Gospel of the Kingdom, was "stung to the heart," and stung to repentance. The gates of the Kingdom were thrown open and the repentant in thousands entered in.

Our message for the New Year is one of hope, "The Kingdom of God," the new world-order, "is now close at hand." It is also one of repentance. "Repent and believe the good news." The new may seem to be previous, the old order may age but it does not die; the Kingdoms of the world advertise their revolt and appear to be victorious. The Kingdom comes but we need the vision of the Seers, the hearts of the prophets and their heart break too to see beyond the unreality of appearances, the reality of the eternal Kingdom of God.

The news can only become good news to us and true as we turn from all that is opposed to the rule of God in our lives and in our world. We must as Jesus calls us. "Repent," that we may believe the good news and the last thing that many of us are prepared to do is to repent.

The world of to-day differs little in its attitude to the old from the world of the day in which our Lord published the Coming of the Kingdom. We find the same resistance to any appeal to turn from our own way to God's way, to renounce our own will to make His will the law of our life. We may applaud efforts to create a spirit of brotherhood among men and nations but we hesitate to accept the condition by which we become Sons of God and true brothers of men by our changed attitude to God by which we are made obedient, trustful and loving children of the Divine Father. Repentance, which is the turning-point, may be preached by the herald of the New-World-order but they cry aloud in the wilderness and not an echo is heard in the hearts of men. The Jewish nation were expectant but not repentant and, however expectant we may be, we are not a repentant people.

We may find, we believe, the reason for the slow progress of the Coming of the Kingdom of God in the neglect of the Christ-condition necessary to its emergence. We may discover, we also believe, the reason to be due to the misunderstanding of the condition. "Repent ye," how often have preachers themselves misunderstood the true motive of repentance! How frequently the motive is viewed as retrospective when Jesus made it prospective.

How rarely is it related to the Coming of the Kingdom of God and the progress of the new order. The Church has stressed repentance as personal and interested, as self-regarding and safe-guarding. Repentance keeps men out of hell and prepares them for heaven. Jesus taught that it is necessary to prepare them to live on earth, and to make earth fit for the Sons of God. He taught us to pray "Thy will be done on earth as in

heaven." "Repent ye," "Ring out the old, ring in the new." Toll muffled bells of penitence. Ring out the false, ring in the true.

"The Kingdom of God is now close at hand," heralded the Baptist and the new

"Ring out the old, ring in the new." Ring out the false, ring in the true.

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"WITHIN THE LAW."

BIG QUEEN'S THEATRE ATTRACTION.

Can you picture the incomparable Norma Talmadge as an adventuress who specializes in breach of promise blackmail.

As Mary Turner, released from prison after serving time for a department store theft of which she is innocent, and under oath to "get even" with the employer who wanted to make an example of her, she has such a rôle in the big First National picture, "Within the Law," coming to the Queen's Theatre to-day.

Embittered by her inability to gain respectable employment, Mary Turner joins a gang of blackmailers with the proviso that they work only "within the law." And obtaining monetary "heart-balm" from wealthy and injudicious men she found to be the safest and most lucrative method.

The complications grow when Dick Gilder, son of Mary's hated former employer, is picked as a victim, following which a most extraordinary and dramatic romance develops.

Mary Turner is the stellar part made famous by Jamie Cowi on the stage in Bayard Vellier's play. It is said to give Miss Talmadge the greatest opportunity she has yet had to reveal her extraordinary emotional powers.

Jack Mulhall and Lew Cody have the principal male rôles; Eileen Percy portrays Aggie Lynch, the blackmailier who induces Mary to join the band. Prominent parts are also played by DeWitt Jennings, Lincoln Plummer, Joseph Kilgour, Helen Ferguson, Ward Crane, Lionel Belmore, Catherine Murphy and Thomas Ricketts.

"Within the Law" was made under the masterful direction of Frank Lloyd and is presented by Joseph M. Schenck.

AMERICAN CLUB.

ELABORATE PLANS FOR HONGKONG.

The Hongkong correspondent in the "China Press" writes:— Perhaps the most important addition to the colony is the opening of an American Club which is scheduled to take place during February or March. This will be the first place in Hongkong which will give the few American residents a chance to get together and make the "engine scream" and its opening is being looked forward to by all of the nationals. At present there are sixty-three members who are under the leadership of Lambert Dunbar, the first President. The top floor of a new building being erected on Duddell Street has been leased and elaborate plans, including ladies' rooms and real American meals, are being carried out.

made other-regarding and seen in the light of our duty to the present and our contribution to the progress of the Kingdom of righteousness, peace, love and joy. Old ideas of repentance are on their way to the melting-pot. Sir Oliver Lodge raised a storm of protest some years ago when he said very plainly, "As a matter of fact the higher man of to-day is not worrying about his sins at all, still less about their punishment. His Mission is to be up and doing." Men are not worrying about the past but the best and most earnest are concerned about the future. We commend to such the opening message of Jesus. . . . Find in the future a motive for seeking so to know yourselves in the light of the teaching of Jesus that you may turn to Him in true penitence of heart and thus to be prepared to co-operate with Him in the Coming of the Kingdom of God. "Repent ye," and believe the good news.

Repentance is of necessity retrospective but it must not remain so, we turn to the past in order that we may turn from it to the future and to God. We seek an escape from the past but our goal must be the Kingdom. "The Gospel remedy," and the Gospel message—and the psychological is to turn to God. In truth the only effective inhibition of any inward evil is to turn the attention not on the evil we mean to flee but on the life we mean to attain. "Forgetting the things which are behind, we press towards the mark of our high calling." And we forget, not by trying to forget but by setting our minds on the goal.

The New Year is the fair land of promise in which the old order will yield to the new.

"Ring out the old, ring in the new." Ring out the false, ring in the true.

"The Kingdom of God is now close at hand," heralded the Baptist and the new

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BELLIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

ANNUAL PRIZE DAY.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS.

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Bellios Public School took place this afternoon at the hall of Queen's College, kindly lent for the occasion.

The following interesting report was read by Miss C. F. Skinner, the Head-mistress:—

Before proceeding to read the report, I should like, on behalf of the staff and pupils, to welcome Mrs. Bird back to Bellios: all are happy to see her here with them again.

School days this year numbered 189, an average daily attendance of 108 is shown. In December the beginning of the school year—over 200 girls presented themselves for admission of whom 109 entered the classes. The school had then its full complement of pupils; there are 183 on the roll.

The health of the school has remained good throughout the year, and we have been entirely free from infectious troubles.

There have been few changes in organization, the work during the course of the year has proceeded smoothly. Mention might be made of the Cookery Classes which continue to be enthusiastically followed and enjoyed. The practical nature of the work may be judged by the fact that a three-course tiffin is usually prepared which is partaken of by the cooks themselves.

The Drawing and needlework in the school continue to give satisfaction, and a high standard is maintained. In the small entrance hall you will find an exhibition of the work that has been done during the year.

Yearly examinations were held throughout the school in November and pupils promoted on the results. We congratulate those who were successful in obtaining the Government Scholarships for 1925, and the twelve Grant in Aid Scholars who came to us from Vernacular Schools. Last year Lady Stubbs presented a silver cup to be held by those who passed Matriculation: the cup this year will be held in turn by the three candidates who have just matriculated. In addition to the three Matriculation passes the school has obtained five passes in the Junior.

In connection with the Locals it is interesting to note that one of the Matriculation students of last year is now studying medicine at the University, and we hope her example will be followed by the new candidates.

One of the traditions of the school, I as a new comer, am happy to find, is a willingness to help those in need. I should like to thank the pupils for their ready response in September to a somewhat hurried call for help in connection with the Canton Goods. In addition to this they have contributed \$1,000 to the Ministering Children's League Fund this year; they maintain a cot in Great Ormond Street Hospital, London; another in the Nethersole Hospital, Hongkong; and an orphan in the Kowloon Home.

On the staff there have been several changes during the course of the year. In July, Miss Clarke left to be married, and I took over her work in September. Miss Clarke has been associated with the Bellios Public School for ten years, since 1918 as Headmistress. All join me, I know, in wishing her every happiness during the few months she is remaining in Hongkong, and long years of happiness and health for herself and her husband when they return home.

In the summer term Miss Wong and Miss Kong left, the existing vacancies on the staff being filled by Miss Yin Hang-ho and Miss Hung Mant-sui. Mrs. Adams resigned in November, and Miss Brennan was transferred to Quarry Bay School in December. Miss Lewis and Miss Hughes, who are just out from home, joined the staff last month. Miss Cheung Lai-ching was appointed as Vernacular Mistress to Standard I—this being a new class formed in December.

In conclusion I most earnestly thank Mrs. Bird for the help and experienced advice she has so willingly given me whenever requested; and also should like to express my appreciation to each member of the staff for their loyal and sympathetic support during my first term at Bellios—their attitude has made the term for myself a most enjoyable period of work.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Tanner, the Headmaster of Queen's College, for the use of the hall this morning, and to all subscribers to the Prize Fund.

Prizes Presented.

The prizes were then distributed by Mrs. R. E. O. Bird, who was presented at the close with a bouquet by two little girls amidst much applause.

Mrs. Bird expressed the pleasure it gave her to be present and to be among old friends. In congratulating the pupils on their successes at the examinations, Mrs. Bird drew attention to the demand for women doctors in the Colony, and expressed the hope that the senior students would take advantage of the facilities offered by the University for qualifying as doctors. To create an interest to this end, Mrs. Bird offered a silver cup to be kept in the school and held by the student who showed the best results. "All cannot win prizes," said Mrs. Bird, and for those who did not receive any she offered a word of advice to do their best. She exhorted the students to cultivate cheerfulness and unselfishness, and all would be well. Mrs. Bird wished them good-bye as this would be the last time she would be present, and said how happy she was to be there.

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Class 4 Government Scholar-ship.—Sung Ngan-lui, First Prize, Hui Wai-han, Second Prize, Hui Lok-yip, Third Prize, Ho Lai-yin.

Class 5a Government Scholar-ship.—Tao Tong-tai, First Prize, Ho Yui-hing, Second Prize, Tse Tong-tai, Third Prize, Kwok Sui-ying, and Kong Sau-tsing.

Class 5b Government Scholar-ship.—Mabel Chue, Division 1, Sylvia Remedios, and May Law, Division 2, Mabel Chue, Division 3, Alice Rodriguez.

Class 6 Government Scholar-ship.—Choi Mui, First Prize, Li Yum-yung, Second Prize, Choi Mui, Third Prize, Kwok Kwan-ming.

Remove Government Scholar-ship.—Sin Pong-hing, Class 7a, Tong Yiu-yu, Class 7b, Fung Sau-wa, Class 7c, Fok Yuk-yip, Class 7d, Ng Chee-hing, Class 8a, Tang Tak-ching, 8b, Ng Sun-yung, Class 8c, Lee Chung-ying, Class 8d, Chan fung-yee.

Standard 3a. Cheung Chi-chun, Standard 3b. Tang Sam-mui, Standard 3c. Cheng Sui-chun, Standard 2a. Li Yuen-fan, Standard 2b. Woo Yuk-king.

Prizes in Chinese.

Class 1. Yeung Wun-dun, Class 2. Fung Sui-king, Class 3. Chiu Lai-fun, Class 4. Hui Lok-yip, Class 5. Kwok Sui-ying, Class 6. Li Dun-yung.

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Class 7c. First Prize, Fan Lai-chun, Second Prize, Mok Po-shim, Third Prize, Yuen Ching-ye.

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BOOKS

AN ISLAND ROMANCE.

"THE COMPULSORY MILLIONAIRE."

LOVE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

["The Compulsory Millionaire," by W. Harold Thomson, published at 7/6 by John Long, Ltd., Norris Street, Haymarket, London.]

As the bank accountant he really was Dennison Carr would not have been without attraction for Joan Warren, the attractive young lady whose life was made as much a misery as that of one with a sunny temperament could be by a match-making, money-seeking mother.

But as the title indicates, Dennison Carr had compulsorily to assume the rôle of a millionaire and this, as regarded his chances with the young lady already mentioned, was a terrible handicap. It mattered, nothing to her that her mother had staked everything on the possibility of a match being arranged between the two, and that because of the limitation of the bounds of the island which circumstances (and Mrs. Warren) had ordained should be the "stalking place" she was thrown a great deal into the company of the charming young dominator of the business world. She had heard so much of the Oswald Shelton that Dennison Carr was supposed to be and of the desirability of making a good marriage that long before she ever met him she had determined to go out of her way to be hasty to him. Not even the fact that his was a very different personality from that which she had expected and that he had interests similar to her own was going to make the slightest difference, she inwardly averred.

If Dennison Carr had had any idea as to the reason, of Joan Warren's indifference, assumed or

otherwise, it is more than probable that he would have unburdened himself to her earlier than he did, but if the conduct of Elaine Carey was anything to go, a man's possession of wealth was by no means a reason for avoiding him.

Elaine Carey was one of the liveliest of the little society group which ostensibly for the sake of its health but for real reasons not unconnected with the young unmarried millionaire's purchase of Lurg, one of Scotland's finest and farthest flung outposts, and his announced intention to spend a holiday there, had decided to make the place their home during the summer months.

Elaine was frankly out for the good things of life, and she had decided that Dennison was the man who could provide these things in abundance. It is fair to her to say that she liked him, did not find him in any way repulsive. Love? That was another matter. Elaine's worldly wisdom—that was what she called her cynicism—had commenced its growth whilst she was still a school-girl, and on innumerable occasions she had declared herself ready to marry any man who from the money point of view, could make life a luxury for her. She lived in comfort but wished for something more than that. She wanted splendour, power and the high lights of life.

When, through her plotting and scheming Carr and she had to spend hours together in a place where, save for the sun, he and she were alone, she thoroughly enjoyed herself. To share an adventure with him, even if that adventure had been self arranged and was mild in character, must surely mean to take a step forward on that dazzling road which she was so wishful to travel. With the aid of a little imagination she made quite a good story out of it.

"Of course, it is frightfully confidential," she explained, "but I have discovered one thing about Oswald Shelton that no-one else knows. He's in love."

"In love," Joan repeated, I didn't think he'd have time for that. Did he actually tell you, Elaine? The other nodded. "I can't remember his exact words," she admitted, "but anyhow it is true. For heavens sake don't go breathing a syllable to anyone else. I wouldn't have told even you if I hadn't felt I simply must pass the news on to someone. You see, he and I had hours and hours together—and of course we talked."

"About love?"

"Well, the subject came up. I couldn't tell you how I managed to make him speak so seriously as he did, but he told me that he loved someone and that he'd never have the courage to propose to her. I thought it was rather thrilling to hear a millionaire speak like that."

The test of true friendship comes, of course, with the discovery of the imposture which has practically been forced on Dennison, but everything looks like being spoilt by that innocent young gentleman's stupidity in not realising that Joan Warren's strongest objection to him has thus been removed. It is more than probable that the fateful words would never have been spoken at all but for his harmless hobby of pottering about the rocks with a shovel in search of specimens. Armed with the knowledge of his discovery of a valuable deposit of clinbar he takes courage in his hands and as he had just enough sense to keep his secret to himself until after the reply, he was accepted.

Hatless both, and the warm sunshine on their faces, Joan and he waited in silence, while, like some awkward boy, the former picked up and dropped again, pebble after pebble.

"Do you really think," Joan asked, "that I care whether you are rich or poor? Must I explain that it was because I thought you were so wealthy that I tried not to care for you. Didn't you notice how I changed when I knew that you were Dennison Carr and not Oswald Shelton?"

Hope was wide winged, and soaring triumphantly. Carr, who had looked into this girl's eyes a thousand times, saw them, as it were, for the first time now. Certainly the eyes were different. Big and limply beautiful as ever, there was something in their soft depths that, even in his dearest dreams, he had not visioned clearly.

"Joan," he said again, "is it true?"

The smile which had first enslaved him flickered at her mouth- corners, and she nodded three or four times, quickly.

EDWARD THE SEVENTH. SIR SIDNEY LEE'S NOTABLE BIOGRAPHY.

[King Edward VII. A Biography. By Sir Sidney Lee. 2 vols. 8vo. Vol. I. "From Birth to Accession—8th November, 1841, to 22nd January, 1901. With six portraits in photo-gravure, two facsimile letters and three maps.]

The first of the two volumes of Sir Sidney Lee's biography of King Edward VII, which has been undertaken at the request of Messrs. Macmillan early in March. The forthcoming volume brings the narrative down to King Edward's birth, on November 9, 1841, to his accession to the throne on January 22, 1901.

The work, while it takes every account of information already published in this country and on this continent, is based on documents in the Windsor archives or at Marlborough House, and on numerous collections of letters addressed by the late King to personal friends and to men of prominence in official life. It should be understood that Sir Sidney Lee is solely responsible for the plan and execution of the work to which he has devoted four years of thought and labour. In his selection of material and in his conclusions he has sought unaided to give practical application to those accepted principles of independent and at the same time sympathetic biography, which he is well known to have long championed.

The forthcoming volume, which deals in full detail with the prolonged period of King Edward's career as Prince of Wales, presents a singularly humane, human, and many-sided personality of intense vitality. His manifold interests in society, philanthropy, social reform, industrial and art exhibitions, sport, the turf, and the theatre, are correlated for the first time with his increasing study from early manhood of international and political questions, his almost daily commentary on which in letters to statesmen and diplomats, his incisive shrewdness, and a spontaneous foresight. Ample light is shed on his attitude to the great events of the time—from the struggle for Italian unity to the South African War—and on his influence with Queen Victoria and with other great figures of the period at home and abroad. Information touching the late King's relations with Ireland, India, and the Empire, as well as with the United States, France, Germany, Russia, Greece, Portugal, Denmark, Belgium, and Egypt, throws new side-lights on history. To his love of France and suspicion of Prussia, both of which are traced from their

early beginnings, a very special significance will be seen to attach in the development of European affairs. Much personal as well as historic interest is bound up with the story of his associations with such influential personages as, among Frenchmen, Napoleon III, M. Gambetta, and General Galliffet; among Germans, the Emperor Frederick, Kaiser William II, Prince Bismarck, Count Herbert Bismarck, and Prince Alexander of Baden; among Russians, the three Tsars, Alexander II, Alexander III, and Nicholas II; Count Schouvaloff, and M. de Staak. Correspondence with the Kings of the Hellenes and of the Belgians has also been laid under contribution.

The long array of Englishmen with whom he is shown to have fostered an attractive and a confidential intimacy, include the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Palmerston, Lord Granville, Lord Spencer, Lord Amhurst, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Beaconsfield, Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Charles Dilke, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir Robert Morley, Lord Rosebery, Lord Caledon, Lord Wolsey, and Lord Salisbury.

Six portraits of King Edward at various stages of his career as Prince of Wales include the masterly sketch by the great French artist Jules Bastien-Lepage, now in the Louvre. Two autograph letters, dated respectively in 1860 and 1900, and illustrating a very marked change in handwriting, are reproduced in facsimile. Three maps illustrate King Edward's tours in the more distant parts of the world—Canada and the United States, Egypt and Palestine, and India. A full genealogical table shows the late King's immediate ancestry, his collateral relatives, and his descendants.

The Second Volume, covering King Edward's reign, which completes the work, is in an active stage of preparation, and will, it is hoped, be published before the end of 1925.

"FURTHER SUNBEAMS."

A NEW BOOK OF JOKES.

[Stanley Paul & Co., Ltd., Upper Woburn Place, W.C. 1; price 2s. 6d.]

Anecdotes, jokes and stories for all occasions are contained in "Further Sunbeams," the companion volume to "Sunbeams," which has just been published by Stanley Paul and Co., Ltd., by arrangement with the "Sunday Express."

This is just the thing for the map whose reputation is such that he can't go to any evening

engagement without being called upon to "tell a yarn." However varied may be his repertoire there comes a time when he must seek new inspiration and in the pages of this handy-sized little volume he will find what he wants.

"Sunbeams" is a direct outcome of the success of its predecessors, the jokes which appear in it being selected from those printed in the "Sunday Express" during the past twelve months. There is not a single one which lays itself open to that (for a joke) terrible accusation—"chestnut," the only resemblance borne to this class being the richness of humour with which such were originally clothed. As an antidote to the "blues," the "dumps" or whatever other name designates the depression of spirits to which all flesh is heir to at times, "Further Sunbeams" is a book to be recommended.

It is difficult in a review limited as to space to give any representative selection from its pages but the following might be taken as some slight indication of the good things which await the purchaser.

The conjurer was performing in a room adjoining a gunpowder factory. A sailor and his parrot were thoroughly enjoying the show. The conjurer changed half a crown into a penny. "Now that's a fine trick," said the sailor, fighting his pipe, "I wonder what he will do next." The sailor then threw away his match.

A minute later there was no sailor, no factory, no room, no village. On a stepple a mile away the parrot, with one feather remaining, said, "Now, that's a fine trick, I wonder what he'll do next."

The younger generation is often accused of being cynical and blasé. But can you beat this? A girl said to a young man the other day—"Look here, 'old thing, if you loved me all the time, and all that sort of muck, why the blazes didn't you trot it out?" The young man stared at her. "Well," he said, "Er—I couldn't find a postcard with the right words on."

A miserable man was left outside a shop in Oxford street by his wife. He waited for an hour, and then approached a policeman. "For the Lord's sake," he said, "order me to move on—loudly and sternly."

The hero of the play was in love with the heroine. She re-

ciprocated his love. They were acting the big scene one night in a small town before a dwindling audience. The great moment came. Stealing close to her he murmured, "Are you alone, darling?" She, forgetting the play, forgetting everything but her lover, replied, "Not yet. There's a few people at the back who look like sipping the show out."

LITERARY NOTES.

Some years have passed since Mr. Douglas Sladen, the author of "Queer Things About Japan," gave us a novel and the immediate publication by Messrs. Stanley Paul of "The Crystal and the Sphinx" will come as a pleasant surprise to many. It is described as a love story with a thread of Eastern mysticism woven through it, and the setting, as in his earlier novel "The Curse of the Nile," is Cairo and the Egyptian desert. An important influence in the story is the famous crystal which Saladin consulted in his campaigns against Richard Coeur de Lion. Mr. Sladen has made a special study of Eastern lore, and a Foreword dealing with crystal-gazing has been contributed by an expert, Miss St. John Montague, a niece of the late Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood.

Messrs. Stanley Paul announce "Secret Places" by Gerlie de S. Wentworth-James, author of "The Soul That Came Back." It tells of the mysterious regeneration of a discontented wife. Mrs. Wentworth-James says that this book was written as the result of certain "experiences and observations, which have brought about a considerable change in her outlook on life."

The autumn of 1924 will be remembered by the reading public as a season of best-sellers not least among them being "Flaming Youth" by Warner Fabian—a name which is said to veil one of the most notable of modern American novelists. A second story by the same author entitled "Sailors' Wives" will be published this week by Messrs. Stanley Paul. Though not necessarily a sequel to "Flaming Youth," it introduces many of the same characters and maintains the atmosphere of violent restlessness and irresponsibility which surrounds the set described in that book. Told with much zest and humour, "Sailors' Wives" is probably the most outspoken criticism of a certain rung in the American social ladder that has yet been written.

WORLD THEATRE.

Sunday 11th to Tuesday 13th January

5.15 and 9.15 p.m.

(Sunday Matinee Starts at 6 p.m.)

The Love Pirate



SHE needed the job he had given her! There were compelling reasons why she could not afford to be without work—and he was taking advantage of her necessity! She knew that he was a dangerous man—she was playing with fire by giving him the slightest hold on her but—

If you enjoy keen-edged drama with a new sort of mystery twist DON'T MISS This Richard Thomas Super Production,

Presented by Wm. La Plante.

Featuring

Carmel Myers, Kathryn McGuire, Melbourne McDowell, Clyde Fillmore and an All Star Cast.

SPECIAL MUSIC. NO ADVANCE IN PRICES.

DON'T FAIL TO SEE IT

SCREENLAND.

"THE LOVE PIRATE."

Carmel Myers was never more vivacious, was never more pretty and has never given a better performance than she does in "The Love Pirate," showing at the World Theatre to-morrow.

With a story that is intriguingly fascinating and supported by a big cast of hand-picked supporting stars, she sallies through a series of plots and counter plots that bid fair to place her among the leaders of film artistes.

The picture is a Richard Thomas production adapted by William Lester from an original story entitled "The Silent Accuser."

It concerns a dashing young assistant state's attorney and a beautiful young violinist, who in the blindness of her ambition is lured into the clutches of the owner of the notorious "Black Bird" cafe. Carmel Myers, as a cabaret entertainer carries the story to a big finish.

The flash of pistols in a darkened room—lurking figures in shadowy streets—romance, thrills and exciting suspense all figure prominently in the picture. In addition to Carmel Myers there is an admirable cast, consisting of Melbourne McDowell as Steve Carnan, Charles Force as Tim Gordon, Kathryn McGuire as Ruth Revere, Clyde Fillmore as Hugh Waring, John Tonkey as Greog Winslow, Carol Holloway as Mrs. Carnan, Edward W. Borman as Joe Harris and Spottiswoods Aitken as Cyrus Revere.

Its director, Richard Thomas, is to be highly complimented on the manner in which he has handled this delicate mystery story. On the whole mystery stories are a hard proposition to put over on the screen, but Mr. Thomas certainly knew what he was about. Melbourne McDowell as Steve Carnan is unusually forceful and carries a double rôle.

Kathryn McGuire as Ruth Revere, enacts a sympathetic rôle as a little violinist carrying much of the story.

"THE DEMI-VIRGINS."

A few months ago, Mr. Armand du Plessy gave to the world a photoplay, daring in theme, startling in originality, intensely dramatic, entitled "The Bachelor Girl." It has gone down into motion pictures' history as one of the greatest screen productions of the last season.

Now Mr. Plessy has come along with "Demi-Virgins," a beautiful screen adaptation of Marcel Prevost's world-known masterpiece. It shows the same daring, the same originality, the same evidence of deep thought as his earlier production and there are such powerful dramatic factors that lift this picture on an even higher plane than his previous one.

As the title indicates, the production is one of truly momentous timeliness. The great French author has drawn his story on a huge canvas of cyclonic emotions. His characters are real, flesh and blood, men and women, most of them moving in the swift set of the world's fastest and most furious metropolises.

The story depicts the whims and foibles, the moral laxity and the unbridled excesses of modern society, especially those who constitute "Le Grand Monde." It is told with all the smashing sincerity, all the lashing scorn and towering truth they deserve.

The producer goes far beyond the little group of interesting characters portrayed in the story. He makes of his subject a mighty human canvas upon which the picturization of present social conditions and morals is painted.

It is in no way an attack on womanhood, as well as in no way a sermon. But in the very magnitude of the theme's treatment, it drives home a lesson the whole world will be better for having seen.

For the sheer magnificence of its scenic investiture this extraordinary photoplay caps the climax of the scene builder's art. The gorgeousness of its lavish settings and costuming excels by far many other great productions of the past.

WORLD THEATRE

COMING! COMING! COMING!

Europe's Most Charming Screen Star

FRANCE DHELIA

— in —

"DEMI-VIRGINS"



THE LOVE DRAMA MAGNIFICENT, BASED ON THE WORLD-FAMOUS NOVEL BY GASTON ROUDE

Here is a passionate and true French Love Story—Nude and without Hypocrisy.

Stars—Pretty Women with Gorgeous Gowns of the Latest Creations that will attract the attention of Hongkong's Well-Dressed Ladies

HULA-HULA, JAZZ, BALLET WITH VIVACIOUS AND ARTISTIC MOVEMENT.

Those who expect to see Natural Scenes similar to those described in Marcel Prevost's famous novel, will have a pleasing surprise because the producers added peppery scenes to it and made the film version really better than the book. gorgeously and with in brilliant settings presenting a black of wealth and luxury this picture will surely be numbered among the greatest attractions of the season.

WATCH FOR IT

France Dhelia, who scored a distinct and signal success in "The Bachelor Girl" in the stellar rôle, is the leading actress in "Demi-Virgins" also. In addition to being a great and pronounced beauty, Miss Dhelia is an actress of unusual ability and has

far all her past achievements. As Maud de Rouvres in "Demi-Virgins," Miss Dhelia is superb and throughout the entire picture she gives an exceptional performance. The star is supported by an exceptionally brilliant cast which included such well-known

LAMMERT BROS.

AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.

Public Auctions.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, 14th Jan. 1925,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at their Sales Room, Duddell Street.

A Selection of Parisian Evening
and Afternoon Gowns from Paris
and

A Quantity of Embroidered Lace
and Insertions
Also

A Few Pieces of White Flannel.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

Level and Storage of water in reservoirs
on the 1st December 1924.

OUT AND HILL DISTRICT WATER WORKS
LEVEL.

1924	1925
System 1st. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 2nd. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 3rd. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 4th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 5th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 6th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 7th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 8th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 9th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 10th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 11th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 12th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 13th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 14th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 15th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 16th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 17th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 18th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 19th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00
System 20th. 1st. Below overflow 121.00	121.00

Consumption of water in the City
and Hill District in millions and decimals
of gallons during the month of November.

1924	1925
Consumption 11,531,775.55	11,531,775.55
Consumption per head 115.32	115.32

Intermittent Supply in all Rider Main
Districts up to 6th and Constant Supply
in all Rider Main Districts from 7th
November 1924.

Intermittent Supply in all Rider Main
Districts West of Eastern Street and Full
Supply in all Rider Main Districts East
of Eastern Street during November 1924.

Consumption of water in the City
and Hill District in millions and decimals
of gallons during the month of November.

1924	1925
Consumption 11,531,775.55	11,531,775.55
Consumption per head 115.32	115.32

Consumption of water in Kowloon in
millions and decimals of gallons during
the month of November.

1924	1925
Consumption 1,153,177.55	1,153,177.55
Consumption per head 115.32	115.32

Full Supply in all districts during
November 1924 and 1925.

The Government Analyst's recent re-
ports show that the quality of the water
is satisfactory.

Total Rainfall to 30th Nov. 1924 in
H. T. O'Connell's
Water Authority.
Public Works Department.

UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELE-
GRAPH COMPANY, LTD.

The following unclaimed telegrams
are lying at the Office of The
Great Northern Telegraph Company
(Limited):—

Okeira Co. from Tientsin
Edward Finlay, China Building, from
Newark, Ohio.

Deen, from Hankow.
Song Khan, Ice House Street, from
Shanghai.

Leonard K. Helmshirst, American
Express Co. from New York.
Helmshirst forward American Express,
from New York.

Bonte, Passenger Angkor, from
Sceaux.

Mazot, Passenger Steamer Paul Lecat
from Shanghai.

Yee Wo Rice Street from Shanghai.
3005, from Amoy.

E. V. JESSEN,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 18th December, 1924.

G. E. WARREN & CO., LTD

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MONUMENTALISTS

Office:
512, WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG.

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JUST RECEIVED A STOCK

OF

6" x 4" Rectangular Rain Water
Pipes, Heads and Shoes—

H. P. Water Filters—

Baths, Basins, Etc.

Estimates Free for all Kinds of
Monumental Work &c., in
Italian Marble—Polished or Finely
Punched H.K. Granite
To own or Selected Design

A large stock of Artificial Wreaths.

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1925 Edition

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Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd. at \$4

Yvert of Teller Champion at \$4

Stanley Gibbons (British
Empire) at ... \$3.25

also

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Dealers in Postage Stamps, Artistic
Postcards, Toys, Garden Seeds, &c.

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P.O. Box 520, Hongkong.

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(Japanese Hand Made)

Every kind of Footwear
MADE TO ORDER



CHERRY & CO.

6, D'AGUILAR STREET,
Opposite Kayamally & Co.

Telephone Central No. 491

Hongkong, March 20, 1914

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When we sell Shanghai
Manufactured Suitcases?

They are Cheaper and
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CHAO CHEUNG TRUNK CO.

(Opposite Yaumati Ferry, Praya)

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Panama Hats, Felt Hats,
Straw Hats and all kinds
of Hats.

HATS CLEANED & SPECIALITY.

No. 90, Wellington Street.

FOR REAL FINE MAJONG SETS

MADE OF IVORY AND BONE.

SOLD AT
Lowest Possible Prices

SUNG SAN CHAN,

140, Wellington Street.

Agent:
SUM JONG,

No. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

WORLD OF SPORT.

FOOTBALL.

TAIKOO DOCK V. "EMPRESS OF CANADA."

A friendly game was played on
Thursday afternoon on the Club
ground between the "Empress of
Canada" and Taikoo Dock Staff,
a collection being made for the
Ministering Children's League.

The teams were:
"Canada": Stevens, Deans
and Elliot; Riddle, Bickett, Deans
and Edmonds; Wheeler, Thorne,
MacFarlane, Johnson and
Burgess.

Taikoo:—Laing, Keown and
Russell; Watson, Ashcroft and
Bell; R. Bell, Ferguson, Moore,
Finnie and McKenzie.

Referee: Mr. McKintosh.

Taikoo kicked off against the
wind and were early attacking.
After some ever play, Ferguson
came through and sent in a high
shot, Stevens meeting the ball
through his hands into the net.

Bell received near the halfway
line and, amid frantic appeals for
offside, raced away and scored,
giving Taikoo a two goals lead.

In the second half McKenzie
worked through on the left and
scored Taikoo's third goal. Tai-
koo forced two corners in suc-
cession. Moore received forty yards
out, and the ship's players, wait-
ing for the whistle to sound for
offside, were surprised to see him
go in and score. Ferguson scored
the fifth and last goal for Taikoo.

Result: Taikoo, 5 goals;
"Empress of Canada," nil.

MARINES V. EAST SURREYS.

A DRAW.

On Murray Parade ground
yesterday afternoon, a draw of
one goal apiece resulted in a
match between teams made up
from the East Surrey Regiment
and the Royal Marines of the
China Fleet.

The Surreys fielded a scratch
side, but they put up a very good
show, their play in all depart-
ments being of a high order.

The Marines' forwards were
very good, notably in a fine pass-
ing movement in the first half,
when the ball was sent from the
right wing to the left entirely by
well judged head-touches.

The result (1-1), fittingly
illustrates the run of the play.

SURREYS' CORPORALS V.

H.M.S. "HAWKINS."

A NAVAL WIN.

A match played on Murray
Parade ground yesterday after-
noon, between the Corporals of
the East Surrey Regiment and
H.M.S. "Hawkins" resulted in a
win for the latter by 4 to nil.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

NAVY TRIAL MATCH ON MONDAY NEXT.

On the Navy "B" ground, on
Monday, at 4 o'clock the Navy
trial will take place to select a
team to play against the Club for
the Colonel Cup, which takes
place at the end of this month.

LAWN TENNIS.

DISCIPLINE AT TOURNAMENTS.

MORE REFORMS NEEDED.

The Council of the Association
have decided to add a penal
clause to the regulation relating
to umpires' decisions at open
tournaments, writes A. Wallis
Myers, C.B.E., in a Home paper.

This amendment to Regulation 14
was submitted to the an-
nual general meeting held in
London on December 15. It may
be assumed, though the actual
wording does not specify the
addition, that the finality given to
umpire's decisions on questions of
fact will also be given to lines-
men's decisions, since the lines-
umpire has sole jurisdiction over
his own line and, when a full
corps of linesmen is employed,
has an even greater responsibility
than the umpire who sits in the
chair.

Now that the Council have
taken official notice of the com-
plaints brought before them by
the Tournaments Committee,
which has been in conference with
the Referees' Association, they
will doubtless consider the
natural sequel—the greater sup-
ply of different umpires, know-
ing the rules of the game and
proving themselves capable of
administering them, and a re-
moval of other factors which pro-
voke irritation among players.

America has its Umpires' As-
sociation organised on business
lines and working in close liaison
with the national

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Coal Merchants

Kailan Mining Admin. (c/o Dowell & Co. Ltd.), Colliery & Steamship Owners. Bituminous Coal, Coking, Firebricks.

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Pang Shin Ming & Co., (General Merchants, Colliery & Steamship Owners) 4A, Des Voeux Road Central, Phone C. 226.

Dentist

Harry Fong, Dentist, 1st floor, No. 74, Queen's Road Central; Tel. Central No. 1286.

Engineers & Shipbuilders

W. S. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Engineer and Shipbuilder, Kowloon Bay, New Work and Repairs, Call Flag "L."

Fertilizer

Eastern Agricultural Fertilizer Co., 25, Jarvis St., Tel. Cen. 1111; Sole Agents: Des Voeux Road Central.

Glass Merchants

A. Ling & Co., Glass Merchants, Furniture, Mirror and Canton Marble Manufacturers, Electro-plated, Glass and Crockery, Ware and Photo Supplies, 18, Queen's Road Central, Tel. Central No. 1219.

Hotels

Palace Hotel, Kowloon—Corner of Des Voeux and Henkew Roads, Few minutes from ferry.

Importers & Exporters

Kwong Sun & Co., 69, Queen's Road Central, Ko Chi Chung (Manager), Kwong Kink Him (Asst.), Tel. Cen. 3169.

Land & Estate Agents

Pan Yick Cho, Land & Estate Agents, Tel. Central 111-1897, 25, Queen's Road Central.

Merchants

Asia Commercial & Development Co., China Bank Buildings (3rd floor) Tel. 3809.

Modistes

Madame Flint, 31, Queen's Road (Cen. Tel. Cen. 489, latest Parisian models).

Optician

The Hongkong Optical Co., Phone 1839, 68, Queen's Road Central.

Photographers

Mee Cheung, P. Photographer, 23, Ice House Street, Beaconfield Arcade Branch, Developing & Printing undertaken.

MEE KWONG.

Printing, Developing etc. undertaken Kowloon.

Fo Kwong Photo Studio

193, Wellington Street, Photo Supplies and Developing, Art picture dealer.

Printers

"The China Mail," General Printers, Publishers and Bookbinders, 5, Wyndham Street, Tel. C. 31.

Rubber & Wood

Tankah & Co., 39 Connaught Rd. W. Manufacturers of Rubber Soles and Shipboard Wood. Tel. Central 4473.

Ship Chandlery

E. Bing & Co., 40 Wing Woo Street, Tel. Central 1118, Metal Merchants & Ship Chandlery, Managing Director—Mr. H. B. Chin.

San Cheong, Comptroller, General Provision Store, Naval and Military Contractor, No. 66, Praya East, Wanchai, Telephone No. 3781.

Shoemakers

Jam. Kee, Dealer in Sewing Machine and Accessories, Shoe & Shoe Maker, 7 Pottinger Street.

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BOOTS, SHOES AND SLIPPERS FOR LADIES GENTS AND CHILDREN. PRICES MODERATE. TEL. 1474, NO. 21, POTTINGER ST.

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Hongkong Tailoring Co., Ladies and Gents Tailors, 16, D'Aguiar Street, New Materials of all descriptions. Tel. Cen. 1390.

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REGULAR AND FAST FREIGHT AND PASSENGER SERVICES.

LONDON SERVICE.

(Direct)
"ELFENOR" 12th Jan. London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"SARFEDON" 27th Jan. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"ADRIASTIC" 2nd Feb. Amsterdam, London & Hamburg
"TROPICUS" 9th Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
* Via Oran.

LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

(Direct or via Continental Ports)
"TITAN" 20th Jan. Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow
"SARFEDON" 1st Feb. Marseilles, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"PROTEUS" 18th Feb. Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow
"ANTICLUS" 1st Mar. Marseilles, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
* Via Port Sudan.

PACIFIC SERVICE.

(Via Kobe and Yokohama)
"PHILOCTETES" 18th Jan. Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver
"TALYTHIUS" 10th Feb. Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver

NEW YORK SERVICE.

(Via Suez or Panama)
"ATREUS" 28th Jan. Boston, New York & Baltimore via Suez
"ET COMPANION" 18th Feb. Boston, New York & Baltimore via Suez

PASSENGER SERVICE.

"PATROCLES" 5th Feb. for Shanghai
"SARFEDON" 27th Jan. for Singapore, Marseilles and London
"PATROCLES" 10th Mar. for Singapore, Marseilles and London
"ANTICLUS" 7th Apr. for Singapore, Marseilles and London
"HECTOR" 5th May for Singapore, Marseilles and London
Also cargo steamers with limited passenger accommodation at specially reduced fares.
For Freight and Passage Rates and all Information Apply to:—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

REGISTERED and PARCEL MAILS are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 8 p.m. on the previous day.

INWARD MAILS.

From	SATURDAY, JANUARY 10.	For
Shanghai		Yingchow
Shanghai		Suiyang
Australia and Manila		Changsha
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11.		
Shanghai		Sinkiang
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13.		
Australia and Manila		Mishima Maru
Japan		Hakusa Maru
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14.		
Straits		Tyndareus
MONDAY, JANUARY 19.		
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai		Proc. Van Buren
Japan		Aki Maru
Saigon		Obanilly
SATURDAY, JANUARY 24.		
U.S.A. Canada, Japan and Shanghai		Proc. Jackson

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	SATURDAY, JANUARY 10.	Time
Hankow and Hainan		4.15 p.m.
Hankow and Hainan		5 p.m.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11.		
Swatow and Bangkok		9 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow		8 a.m.
Samahni and Wuchow		10 a.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 12.		
Swatow and Bangkok		9.30 a.m.
Straits		2.30 p.m.
Amoy		3.30 p.m.
Swatow		5.30 p.m.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13.		
Swatow and Bangkok		9.30 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow		Noon
Swatow		5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14.		
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Egypt & EUROPE via MARSEILLES—due Marseilles 14th Feb. Registration 8.45 a.m. Letters 9.30 a.m.		
Hakusa Maru		10.30 a.m.
Yingchow		1 p.m.
Barrymore		1.30 p.m.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15.		
Straits		Van Overstraten 11.30 a.m.
Swatow		Liensheng 5 p.m.
Japan, Canada, U.S.A. C. & S. America, & EUROPE via VICTORIA, B.C.—due Victoria B.C. Feb. 8th. Parcels 6 p.m. Registration Jan. 16th. 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.		
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16.		
Hankow and Hainan		Lokenang 8 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow		Haining 8 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17.		
Batavia, Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & EUROPE via MARSEILLES—due Marseilles 18th Feb. 1925. Ship calls on Sunday the 18th Jan. 1925. Registration 4.15 p.m. Letters 5 p.m.		
Andre Loben		
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20.		
Manila, AUSTRALIA & New Zealand via Thursday Island—due Thursday Island 21st Jan. Registration 8.45 a.m. Letters 9.30 a.m.		
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26.		
Manila		Proc. Jackson 9 a.m.

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

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No. 12, D'Aguiar Street, HONGKONG.

MARX FAILS.

A BUSINESS GOVERNMENT IMPOSSIBLE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Berlin, January 9. Herr Marx has informed Herr Ebert that he is unable to form the so-called Business Government.

REASON FOR FAILURE.

Berlin, later. Herr Marx's decision was the sequel to a declaration this afternoon that Herr Stresemann's People's Party would oppose a Government composed of the Centre Party or Democrats or including Under-Secretaries. As the Minister's result, whatever Cabinet Herr Marx formed would be in a minority in the Reichstag, as the smaller Parties will also oppose it.

Herr Stresemann apparently holds the key to the situation, which is most uncertain. It is reported that Herr Ebert will request the Finance Minister, Herr Luther, to form a Cabinet. Herr Luther is a non-party man, to whom Nationalist tendencies are attributed. His Government will certainly lean towards the Right and will encounter bitter opposition from the Socialists and Democrats.

TOW-BOAT FOUNDERS.

AT ENTRANCE TO MACAO HARBOUR.

NO CASUALTIES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

MACAO, January 9. On Wednesday, the regular tow-boat from Hongkong foundered at the entrance to Macao inner harbour after a trying journey across.

As the tow-boat does not carry passengers, only the crew and one or two supercargoes were on board. Owing to the junk, going down close to the water-front they all reached land in safety.

A strong gale was blowing as she was making her way round the Fort. It is thought that she was blown out of her course and, therefore, hit the harbour bottom. The tow-boat plies regularly between the two ports, carrying considerable cargo. On the last trip she had a cargo of peanuts for an oil pressing firm and some timber.

LABOUR PROBLEMS.

PERMANENT EMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

(Reuter's Service.)

Geneva, January 9. The Executive Council of the International Labour Office has decided that, there will be two sessions in 1926—one to study maritime questions and the other to deal with general labour problems.

It has also been decided to establish a permanent Emigration Committee.

GOLD FRANCS.

A COMMISSION APPOINTED.

(Reuter's Service.)

PEKING, January 9. The Ministry of Finance has organised a Commission to discuss the gold franc question. The Commission consists of representatives of all the Ministries.

A CANARD.

MUSSOLINI NOT YET KILLED.

(Reuter's Service.)

PARIS, January 10. It was rumoured here this morning that Signor Mussolini had been assassinated, but it is ascertained that he telephoned personally to one of the Italian representatives at the Allied Finance Conference this afternoon.

TO-DAY

at 2.30, 5 sharp, 7.10 and 9.15

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